



Thank you for giving us the opportunity to review some of the exciting new changes to your lunch program:

Increased Nutrition Education has begun!

- We have begun our launch of our Grow Cart program. Small, indoor electric “greenhouses” have been delivered to each of the elementary schools. The faculty will incorporate the growing of fresh herbs into the curriculum at each school. Once the herbs are ready to harvest, they will be featured in entrees in the cafeteria so that students can get the full “from soil to plate experience”
- Starting in January, Chef Josh will begin the interactive presentations and taste tests that are part of the Farm Fresh Focus program. Chef Josh have a table set up with information and displays involving sweet potatoes and be on hand to hand out samples and to talk to students about our foods at each of the elementary schools in January.

Better Communication with the Community has begun!

- We are currently in the process of working with the elementary schools to do surveys with the students, to get direct feedback about how they feel about the new lunch program, and what other changes they would like to see. High School and Middle School surveys will be conducted in the near future.
- We are working with the Middle and High School administrations to have the Food Service Director be a regular visitor with the student councils, to discuss the lunch program and student’s likes and dislikes.
- This week we’re finalizing new and updated information for the food service web page, including information on online payments.

Better Food & Service has begun!

- Teacher participation has more than doubled over previous years.
- Healthy new options have proven to be a hit at elementary schools, with sales of salads and yogurt parfaits often outpacing the traditional sandwich choice. New options such as veggie stackers are being introduced monthly.
- For the first time ever, the Dover City Employee Holiday Luncheon will be catered by the school food service department. This event will provide City employees with the opportunity to try the food that the city’s students enjoy on a regular basis, and provides additional revenue to the school district.