Healthy Changes in Our School Cafeterias!

Dear Riverside families,

As we begin the 2012-2013 school year, Nutri-Serve Food Management school cafeterias will be designing their menus in compliance with new federal nutrition standards for school meals. It has always been the goal of Nutri-Serve Food Management to prepare healthy and well-balanced meals providing all the nutrition students need to succeed in school.

Now is a great time to encourage your kids to choose school lunch!

School cafeterias are required by the USDA to offer students five components to each lunch based off of the newly designed “MyPlate” nutrition model (pictured above). These components include: a milk, fruit, vegetable, protein and whole grains. Starting in School Year 2012-2013, school lunches must meet the following additional standards:

- Age-appropriate calorie minimums and maximums
- Larger servings of vegetables and fruits (students must take at least one serving of a fruit or a vegetable)
- A wider variety of vegetables, including dark green and red/orange vegetables and legumes each week.
- Fat-free or 1% milk (flavored milk must be fat-free)
- Whole grains (at least 51%) with maximum servings set by grade group per week.
- Protein servings will be a maximum of 2 ounces for Grades K-8 and 2.4 ounces for Grades 9-12.
- Maximum 10% Saturated Fat.
- Less sodium

Nutri-Serve Food Management is always working to offer students healthier and tastier choices.

School meals are a great value and a huge convenience for busy families too! You can write a check, made payable to the RTBOE (Riverside Township Board of Education) for any amount. (You can prepay for the week, the month, or any period of time.) Please be sure to include your child’s name, and grade on the check, and place the check in an envelope marked “Cafeteria”. Your child can bring the check in at breakfast or lunch time. Cash will also be accepted. You can also designate whether or not you want these funds to be used for meals only, ala carte items only, or a combination of both. Should you have any questions, please contact Arlene McBride at 856-461-1255 x 1140.

Nutri-Serve Food Management looks forward to welcoming your children to the cafeteria this fall. To find out more about Riverside’s healthy school meals, contact Arlene McBride at 856-461-1255 x 1140, and to get the facts about school meals visit www.TrayTalk.org or www.nsfm.com

Thank you for supporting our lunch program!