



Child Nutrition Program
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October 5, 2012

Dear Representatives:

The Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 has had a positive effect on the health and welfare of students. This act ensures that the federal funds that go into feeding students are based on the most recent nutritional research. This also sets up standards for companies to produce food that meet national nutritional standards. These national standards help to control cost and also provide the nutrients students need.

Our Grand Forks Public School's Child Nutrition Programs have been moving towards these standards for several years. Our students have adjusted and even enjoy whole grains, low fat milk and variety of vegetables and fruit choices. This year, we have received several positive comments from students that enjoy the additional fruits and vegetables we offer each day. We know they are enjoying these meals by looking at our participation numbers. In both our open campus high schools that have an enrollment of 1000 students have averaged 70-80% participation of a school lunch that meets the new meal standards. Our middle schools are averaging 89-93% participation rate and our elementary schools 75-93%.

The new meal standards are important for students, and the health of our nation. If schools are providing meals that are reimbursed by federal dollars, we do need to follow scientific research on what to offer. We have a nation at risk for health problems. School meals provide an example on how to eat for life.

Sincerely,
Julie Tunseth
Director of Child Nutrition Programs
Grand Forks Public Schools