HEALTHY SCHOOLS 2020

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Issue 7: October 2012

Healthy Schools 2020 is about working together to support active, healthy eating environments in the schools in our region. This e-bulletin is designed to provide you and your school communities with fun, practical ways to keep healthy nutrition top of mind – in your **school lunch programs, fundraising initiatives**, and **classroom rewards**.



Plan new menus with help from students!

Get student input to serve appealing and healthy meals at your school:

- Involve students in meetings with food providers and let students voice their concerns.
- Get their input into menu planning. If they create it, they will eat it!
- Let them taste-test and provide feedback on new dishes.
- Offer new menu items at a discount for a trial period.
- Reflect the cultural diversity of your school. Try trendy dishes served in a fun way e.g, an Asian dish served with chopsticks, a stir fry with a choice of mild to very hot sauces.
- Give menu items funky names provided by the students.

Healthy Halloween Tricks & Treats!

- Hold a pumpkin carving contest.
- Host a parade throughout the school for all to see the great costumes.
- Create a haunted classroom, or decorate a spooky classroom door.
- Provide prizes such as creepy crawly spiders, themed stickers, erasers...
- Add activity to the Halloween fun! Spend time outside playing a game of tag or a Halloween-themed scavenger hunt.

Pumpkins...a Vegetable Worth Knowing!

We often think of pumpkins as Halloween decorations... but pumpkins are a powerhouse of vitamins and minerals. Regardless if it is the seed or the pulp, pumpkins offer great health benefits:

- High in antioxidants: prevents cataracts in the eyes and protects eye tissue.
- Excellent Source of Vitamin A: important for normal vision and healthy growth; protects immune function.
- Also contains vitamins C and E and minerals magnesium, potassium and zinc.
- The seeds are excellent source of **dietary fibre** and **unsaturated fatty acids**.
- Can be baked, stewed, or steamed. You can purée the pumpkin when cooked and add to muffins, pancakes, sweet breads, and cookies
- <u>Click here</u> for a tasty <u>Pumpkin Cupcake recipe</u> the entire family is sure to enjoy!

Champlain Report Card 2012

75.9% of Champlain schools completed the follow-up survey in March 2012 with promising results! **Food rewards in the classroom**, for example, decreased from 42.3% (2010) to **22.9%**!



Want to see more results? View the report here.

Looking for HEALTHY FUNDRAISERS this School Year?

The **School Fundraising Ideas** document has many healthy options for your school fundraisers. **Click here** for a copy!

