



Oliver's team talk

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Teach! TEACHERS' CORNER

National School Lunch Week is Oct. 13-17.

This year's theme is "Vote for School Lunch". The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is a federally assisted meal program serving 30.5 million children every school day! The meals served in the NSLP are balanced meals, meeting stringent nutrition guidelines.

Did you know that in Texas, we have our own nutrition program, the Texas Public School Nutrition Policy? This policy restricts foods of minimal nutritional value, candy, and competitive foods, eliminated deep fat frying as a cooking method, and set limits on fat content. It also mandated the serving of fruits and vegetables daily and encourages serving fresh fruits and vegetables!

Excite! READY, SET, GO!

Vote for School Lunch!

As the 2008 presidential election draws nearer, get your students excited about the political process by encouraging your students to vote online for the President of School Lunch. This year's nominees are Petunia Pita Pocket, Gloria Grilled Cheese, Larry Lasagna, Pete Pizza, and Biff Burger. The election period is Aug. 1 - Oct. 17. Students can nominate their favorite candidate by voting online at www.VoteForSchoolLunch.org. You can also hold a paper ballot at your school and mail in the results. The national winner will be announced on Oct. 24, 2008.

Activate! MAKE YOUR MOVE

Teach your students about the political process by playing a fun election game. Using this year's School Lunch President candidates found at www.VoteForSchoolLunch.org, host a mock election. Assign students to one of five teams, each team representing a candidate. Encourage your students to create campaign slogans, posters, and pamphlets for their candidates. Give your students the opportunity to campaign, and encourage students to discuss the nutritional benefits of their candidates as a food choice. Then, host an election and have each student vote for their favorite candidate; the candidate with the most votes wins!

Motivate! SPREAD THE WORD

After the election, keep your students interested by passing out the activity sheets provided at <http://docs.schoolnutrition.org/meetingsandevents/nslw2008/docs/NSLW08.ActivitySheets.pdf>.

Encourage your students to explore the www.VoteForSchoolLunch.org website. Be sure to announce the winner of the national school lunch president after the announcement on Oct. 24.

For more information, visit
www.schoolnutrition.org

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