

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

KIM GUADAGNO

## State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PO Box 500 TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRISTOPHER D. CERF Commissioner

September 18, 2012

TO: Chief School Administrators

Charter School Lead Persons

Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

FROM: Barbara Gantwerk, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Student and Field Services

SUBJECT: School Nutrition Resource for Parents

Beginning this year, school cafeterias across the state and across the country must meet tough new federal nutrition standards which include some of the biggest changes in 30 years. The new standards make sure that all students receive well-balanced meals and all the nutrition they need to succeed in school. School meals will include a larger variety of fruits and vegetables, serving sizes appropriate for each age group, more whole grains, less salt, and either fat free or 1% milk.

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture created a parent resource that provides information about the new federal nutrition standards. This resource may be accessed on the NJDOE's Keeping Our Kids Safe, Healthy, and in School webpage at

http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/health/nutrition/changes.pdf

This resource is appropriate for parents and families of students in grades K-12 in school districts that participate in the National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program. This resource may be posted on your district and school websites and reproduced without restriction. School administrators, school employees, parents and students can access additional nutrition resources on the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) website at <a href="http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/healthierschoolday/default.htm">http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/healthierschoolday/default.htm</a>.

Thank you.

c: Christopher D. Cerf Garden State Coalition of Schools
Susan Martz Executive County Superintendents

Nancy Curry Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers

Christene DeWitt-Parker

NJ LEE Group

S:/SHSS/CDC-CSHP/NJ Dept. of Agriculture, Nutrition and Food Services/2012-2013 School Lunch-Breakfast Resource/School Nutrition Services Fact Sheet Broadcast Memo 9-2012