



Summer 2017 Newsletter

Pedal into Spring

During the month of April, our elementary schools participated in a Pedal into Spring promotion. Every time a student purchased a lunch in their café, they were given a raffle ticket to win a bike of their very own! Our grand prize winner was Rianna, a 1st grader at Cleveland Elementary School. The food services team had our mascot Ava, present her with her new Frozen themed bike! Her father, teacher, principal and superintendent were there to celebrate this special event.



Lucky Tray Day

All of our elementary schools also participated in 'Lucky Tray Day' during the month of May. This was an event that got kids excited about choosing well-balanced and nutritious meals straight from their cafeteria. Every week for the entire month, one lucky student who grabbed a lucky tray won a prize. Prizes included stickers, pencils and jump ropes.



2017 New England Drama Festival Catering



The 2017 New England Drama Festival was hosted by Norwood High School, and food services were granted the opportunity to cater the three day event! With over 350 students in attendance, food services provided breakfast, lunch and dinner for students, with a menu that included quite a spread of different flavors and cuisines. The menu included meals ranging from sunrise breakfast samplers, build-your-own taco bar, made-to-order Caesar salads, Italian pasta dinner, and a freshly prepared Chinese buffet. Students, staff and parents raved about the food, showing great success for such a large catering event. These events allow us to show the Norwood community the variety of services we can provide for our district. The food services team would like to thank all of the staff who helped work the event. It was a fun three days, and we look forward to our next catering event here in Norwood.

Buffalo Chicken Dip Lunch!

The demand for buffalo chicken dip from our students was high, so food services put their heads together to make things happen. With a team effort, a recipe was developed and approved to meet nutrition guidelines, and then launched in a way that students would never forget. In April the dip was launched at the middle and high school, and was promoted through promotional videos, daily announcements, chicken hats, a game of clue, and lots of memes! We can say it has been a great success thus far - on the days it is served meal counts increase by 30 meals at the high school and 10 at the middle school. This popular menu item has taken wind across New England, where a handful of districts have also incorporated this item into their menu. Norwood is a trend-setter and we look forward to setting more trends that meet the needs of our district community!



Menus by Nutrislice™! - Norwood students and parents can access electronic menus and review nutrient, allergen, and ingredient information; available on the district website or through a Smartphone app!

The link to the menus will be available from the NPS website:
www.norwood.k12.ma.us

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Food and Nutrition Education

At the beginning of our journey here in Norwood, our food services team made it a goal to engage with our students in unique ways outside of the café. One of those ways included educating students about our roles and career opportunities. Eli and Kelsey participated in NHS's career fair, where students learned about opportunities within food and nutrition which could include areas like school nutrition, hospitality, restaurant management, etc.



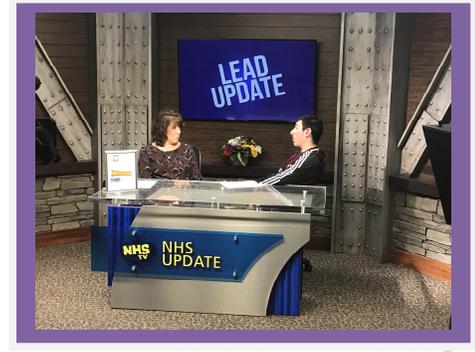
Another form of engagement includes utilizing a dietitian throughout the district in various settings, including the classroom. Kelsey provided a health and nutrition education series for all sophomores enrolled in health class. Students learned about macro nutrients, how to make healthy choices in the café, and hot topics related to sugar consumption and supplement intake. We look forward to new food and nutrition education opportunities for the 17/18 SY!



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Awesome Human Being Award

Every month NPS's LEAD Program presents an "Awesome Human Being" award to recognize and show support for an individual who is seen as an everyday hero doing amazing things. This past spring, food service's very own Diane Rodger was given this award, being recognized as a person who goes above and beyond, has a great rapport with students and staff, and truly exemplifies classiness. Because of her award, Diane was interviewed by the LEAD program during their monthly LEAD update TV show. Congratulations Diane, and keep on being awesome!



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Tropical Fruit Taste Testing @ Balch

Last month, the food services team held a tropical fruit taste testing at Balch Elementary School. This taste testing is made possible by a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program grant for the Balch, which provides us with the opportunity to expose students to new and different fruits and vegetables. Students were able to sample fresh mango and starfruit! Mango might be a more popular fruit for most, but starfruit was definitely something brand new to a lot of the students. Their curiosity got them excited to try something new and flavorful! The team plans to wrap up the school year by providing one last tasting at Balch - a fresh berry tasting!

