+ Stepping into Montana's Smarter Lunchrooms



Columbia Falls School District, Columbia Falls High School

Smarter Lunchrooms Principles Used:

- 1. Increase visibility
- 2. Increase convenience
- 3. Increase taste expectations



ContactLaurie lunghuhnPositionFood Service DirectorEmailliunghuhn@sd6.k12.mt.usPhone406-892-6550

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Goals:

- \Rightarrow Entice more high school students into the lunchroom.
- \Rightarrow Increase intake of fruits and vegetables.
- \Rightarrow Decrease food waste.
- \Rightarrow Build student support of the school lunch program.

Actions:

- ⇒ Formed a Student Nutrition Action Committee (SNAC) to collaborate with students and staff to receive feedback and suggestions.
- \Rightarrow Enhanced the main line with decorative baskets and serving dishes and moved salad bar to the front of the line.
- \Rightarrow Offered smoothies, fruit parfaits, and fresh vegetables with attractive promotional signage on the a la carte line.
- ⇒ Promoted the daily lunch menu in multiple areas with chalk board and sandwich board signage.
- ⇒ Improved ambiance with eye-appealing décor, removed clutter, and ordered colorful banners for marketing.
- \Rightarrow Started a sharing bowl for leftover whole fruit.

Results:

- \Rightarrow Number of students participating in lunch program increased by 9 percent.
- \Rightarrow Smarter Lunchrooms Self-Assessment Score increased by 14 points.
- \Rightarrow The smoothies and parfaits provide refreshing fruit options.
- \Rightarrow Students took notice of colorful eye appealing service line.

Next Steps:

- \Rightarrow Offer grab and go meals at kiosk located near the most used exit door.
- \Rightarrow Explore offering grab and go catered meals for students meetings occurring during the lunch hour.
- \Rightarrow Display new signage in cafeteria promoting menu choices on all three lines.
- \Rightarrow Continue with SNAC goal of continued communication.
- \Rightarrow Place a suggestion box in cafeteria to receive student feedback.

Montana Team Nutrition Program Visit www.opi.mt.gov/MTeamNutrition Call 406-994-5641

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