The Smarter Lunchrooms Scorecard is a list of simple, no-cost or low-cost strategies that can increase participation, reduce food waste, and increase selection and consumption of healthy school food.

**INSTRUCTIONS**
1. Review the scorecard before beginning.
2. Observe a lunch period. Check off statements that reflect the lunchroom.
3. Ask other school nutrition staff, teachers, or administration about items that have an asterisk.*
4. Tally the score.
5. Discuss the results with stakeholders. Choose unchecked strategies to implement in the lunchroom.

### FOCUS ON FRUIT
- At least two kinds of fruit are offered.
- Sliced or cut fruit is offered.
- A variety of mixed whole fruits are displayed in attractive bowls or baskets (instead of stainless steel pans).
- Fruit is offered in at least two locations on all service lines, one of which is right before each point of sale.
- At least one fruit is identified as the featured fruit-of-the-day and is labeled with a creative, descriptive name at the point of selection.
- A fruit taste test is offered at least once a year.*

**Focus on Fruit Subtotal _____ of 6**

### VARY THE VEGETABLES
- At least two kinds of vegetables are offered.
- Vegetables are offered on all service lines.
- Both hot and cold vegetables are offered.
- When cut, raw vegetables are offered, they are paired with a low-fat dip such as ranch, hummus, or salsa.*
- A serving of vegetables is incorporated into an entrée item at least once a month (e.g., beef and broccoli bowl, spaghetti, black bean burrito).*
- Self-serve spices and seasonings are available for students to add flavor to vegetables.
- At least one vegetable is identified as the featured vegetable-of-the-day and is labeled with a creative, descriptive name at the point of selection.
- A vegetable taste test is offered at least once a year.*

**Vary the Vegetables Subtotal _____ of 8**

### HIGHLIGHT THE SALAD
- Pre-packaged salads or a salad bar is available to all students.
- Pre-packaged salads or a salad bar is in a high traffic area.
- Self-serve salad bar tongs, scoops, and containers are larger for vegetables and smaller for croutons, dressing, and other non-produce items.
- Pre-packaged salads or salad bar choices are labeled with creative, descriptive names and displayed next to each choice.

**Highlight the Salad Subtotal _____ of 4**

### MOVE MORE WHITE MILK
- Milk cases/coolers are kept full throughout meal service.
- White milk is offered in all beverage coolers.
- White milk is organized and represents at least 1/3 of all milk in each designated milk cooler.
- White milk is displayed in front of other beverages in all coolers.
- 1% or non-fat white milk is identified as the featured milk and is labeled with a creative, descriptive name.

**Move More White Milk Subtotal _____ of 5**

### BOOST REIMBURSABLE MEALS
- Cafeteria staff politely prompt students who do not have a full reimbursable meal to select a fruit or vegetable.
- One entrée is identified as the featured entrée-of-the-day, is labeled with a creative name next to the point of selection, and is the first entrée offered.
- Creative, descriptive names are used for featured items on the monthly menu.
- One reimbursable meal is identified as the featured combo meal and is labeled with a creative name.
- The combo meal of the day or featured entrée-of-the-day is displayed on a sample tray or photograph.
- A (reimbursable) combo meal is offered as a grab-and-go meal.
- Signs show students how to make a reimbursable meal on any service line (e.g., a sign that says “Add a milk, fruit and carrots to your pizza for the Power Pizza Meal Deal!”)
- Students can pre-order lunch in the morning or day before.*
- Students must use cash to purchase à la carte snack items if available.
- Students have to ask a food service worker to select à la carte snack items if available.*
- Students are offered a taste test of a new entrée at least once a year.*

**Reimbursable Meals Subtotal _____ of 11**

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**LUNCHROOM ATMOSPHERE**

- Cafeteria staff smile and greet students upon entering the service line and throughout meal service.
- Attractive, healthful food posters are displayed in dining and service areas.
- A menu board with today's featured meal options with creative names is readable from 5 feet away when approaching the service area.
- The lunchroom is branded and decorated in a way that reflects the student body.
- Cleaning supplies or broken/unused equipment are not visible during meal service.

- All lights in the dining and meal service areas work and are turned on.
- Compost/recycling and trash cans are at least 5 feet away from dining students.
- There is a clear traffic pattern. Signs, floor decals, or rope lines are used when appropriate.
- Trash cans are emptied when full.
- A menu board with tomorrow's featured meal with creative names is readable from 5 feet away in the service or dining area.

**Lunchroom Atmosphere Subtotal ______ of 10**

**STUDENT INVOLVEMENT**

- Student artwork is displayed in the service area or dining space.
- Students, teachers, or administrators announce today's menu in daily announcements.*
- Students are involved in the development of creative and descriptive names for menu items.*
- Students have the opportunity to volunteer in the lunchroom.

- Students are involved in the creation of artwork or marketing materials to promote menu items.*
- Students provide feedback (informal – “raise your hand if you like...” or formal – focus groups, surveys) to inform menu development.*

**Student Involvement Subtotal ______ of 6**

**SCHOOL COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- A monthly menu is posted in the main office.
- A menu board with creative, descriptive names for today's featured meal options is located in the main office.
- A monthly menu is provided to students, families, teachers, and administrators.*
- Information about the benefits of school meals is provided to teachers and administration at least annually.*
- Nutrition education is incorporated into the school day.*
- Students are engaged in growing food (for example, gardening, seed planting, farm tours, etc.).*

- Elementary schools provide recess before lunch.*
- The school participates in one or more food promotion programs such as Chefs Move to Schools, Fuel Up to Play 60, Share Our Strength, etc.*
- The school has a partnership with Farm to School, local business(es), or a farmer's market.*
- Smarter Lunchrooms strategies are included in the Local School Wellness Policy.*

**School Involvement Subtotal ______ of 10**

**AWARD LEVEL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bronze 15-25</td>
<td>Great job! This lunchroom is off to a strong start.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver 26-45</td>
<td>Excellent. Think of all the kids that are inspired to eat healthier!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold 46-60</td>
<td>This lunchroom is making the most of the Smarter Lunchroom Movement. Keep reaching for the top!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Scorecard FAQs visit: SmarterLunchrooms.org

The asterisk (*) indicates items that may need input from other school nutrition staff, teachers, or administration.

Smarter Lunchrooms Scorecard 2.0

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**DEFINITIONS**

- **Point of Sale (POS):** Anywhere students leave the line with food and are charged or counted, such as at a register, check-out, or PIN pad
- **Point of Selection:** Anywhere students select food or drink
- **Service Line:** A designated line for meal selection—deli bar, salad bar, hot lunch line, snack window, etc.
- **Grab-and-Go:** A pre-packaged reimbursable meal
- **Reimbursable Meal/Combo Meal:** Any meal that meets all the USDA meal requirements and is priced as a unit
- **Featured Items:** A fruit, vegetable, milk, or entrée that has been identified for promotion

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