

# School Nutrition Partnerships

Garnering support from people in your school district and community will help you succeed. A great place to start is with your school's wellness council and the following groups:

## Students

- Meet with students to gather feedback on which foods are served in the cafeteria that they enjoy.
- Encourage students to promote school lunch to their friends.
- Place a comments box in the cafeteria for students to make suggestions.

## Teachers

- Meet with teachers to discuss ways they help promote school meals.
- Suggest that younger students read books about foods served in the cafeteria. Have older students in business and marketing classes help with promotions.
- Offer the cafeteria as a no-cost field trip destination.

## School Administrators

- Meet with administrators to discuss competitive foods and their impact on school lunch and students' health.
- Talk about the connection between nutrition and academic performance.
- Encourage administrators to enjoy school lunch with the students.

## Parents

- Attend parent organization meetings to discuss the school nutrition program, upcoming promotions, menus, parental controls for school meals, special diet accommodations or other topics of interest.
- Invite parents to join their children for lunch.
- Share new lunchroom recipes parents can make at home.

## The Community

- Request sponsorships from local businesses to support a school garden, cafeteria makeover or prizes for promotional activities.
- Work with your food supplier to get free samples of foods for taste tests.
- Engage local farms or grocery stores. A local farmer might donate fresh fruit for everyone buying a school lunch, or the grocery store might provide coupons or assistance with marketing efforts.
- Recruit local professionals. Chefs or culinary students might help with recipe development; the health department might help with promotions, or a local artist could paint a mural in the lunchroom.

