



# Exciting Things in School Nutrition!!!

## Maryland Homegrown School Lunch Week Sept. 14-18, 2009

Homegrown School Lunch Week is part of the Farm to School initiative, which is designed to promote consumption of Maryland-grown food in schools and to educate students about where their food comes from, how it's grown, and the benefits of healthy eating.

We encourage you to plan events for the second annual Homegrown School Lunch Week. Visit [www.farmtoschool.org](http://www.farmtoschool.org) to learn about the national movement. To learn more about Maryland's Farm to School efforts, visit [www.mdfarmtoschool.org](http://www.mdfarmtoschool.org).

## New Wellness Policy and Implementation Guide

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) recently released *Making Wellness Work: A Guide to Implementing and Monitoring Wellness Policies in Maryland* and gave a copy of the guide to all Maryland school systems.

For information on Maryland's School Wellness Policies, please contact the School and Community Nutrition Programs Branch at MSDE at 410-767-0219 or email Stewart Eidel at [seidel@msde.state.md.us](mailto:seidel@msde.state.md.us). The guide can be downloaded, free of charge, on the MSDE School website located at [www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/programs/school\\_wellness](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/programs/school_wellness).

## The At-Risk Afterschool Supper Program

Maryland is one of ten states in the country with the At-Risk Afterschool Supper Program! This program reimburses afterschool programs for nutritious meals served to children age 18 and under during the school year (including weekends and school breaks).

Schools and child care centers are eligible to participate if they are located in an attendance area of a school in which at least 50 percent of enrolled children are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals. Afterschool providers and schools interested in the opportunity to participate in the afterschool meals program should contact MSDE.

## The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) provides reimbursement for fresh fruit and vegetables to selected elementary schools throughout the State. FFVP targets schools with a high percentage of low-income students. The fresh fruits and vegetables are served as a snack. Sixty-nine Maryland schools are participating in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program in the upcoming 2009-2010 school year.

***ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL MEALS!***

***Learn More!***

**Maryland State Department of Education  
School & Community Nutrition Programs Branch**

**410-767-0214**

**[www.eatsmartmaryland.org](http://www.eatsmartmaryland.org)**