

Our commitment to good nutrition for your kids just keeps getting stronger.

This school year, we're reinforcing our commitment to new USDA guidelines for even healthier meals for your kids.

We're using the message pictured here to keep reminding kids of the basic change they still need to be aware of -- **that they must choose at least one fruit or vegetable among the three meal components they need to take for a complete lunch** -- but there's more to the on-going changes that we want to share with parents. Here are the major differences:

- * Calorie maximums per average meal were new at the start of last school year. Since then, **USDA has given us more flexibility within the calorie maximums, so that we can serve more grains and proteins** when that makes more sense in a given day's menu. The calories maximums per average meal have not changed, but we're able to serve more grains and proteins within the maximums.
- * Students still must **choose at least one fruit or veggie serving**, and we encourage them to choose more if they like.
- * Students have a **greater selection and variety of fruits and veggies** to choose from, too. Every day, we're offering at least $\frac{3}{4}$ -1 cup of veggies **PLUS** $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 cup of fruit.
- * We're **emphasizing the healthiest veggies** more often, with weekly offerings of healthy dark green and red/orange vegetables, as well as beans and other legumes.
- * **Whole grains are up again.** At least 50% of all grain foods we serve are whole-grain rich, and within another year, all of the grains we serve will be whole-grain rich.
- * **Bad fats are down.** Meals average less than 10% calories from saturated fat, and every item contains zero grams per serving of trans fat.
- * We're serving only **fat-free unflavored, 1% unflavored, and fat-free flavored milks.**
- * We're meeting new standards for **limiting sodium** until we reach a final maximum of 740 mg sodium per meal on average.

Putting these changes in place over the last year has required careful planning on our part, especially as we (and our customers!) have been getting used to the new guidelines. But the end result is healthier meals for our kids -- and **well-nourished kids do better in school!**

Please visit www.traytalk.org for more details



DON'T 4GET!

Take at least **ONE**

FRUIT

or

VEGGIE

and at least **THREE**
items total so your meal
counts as a complete lunch!



School Meals
We serve education every day™

ALDEN-CONGOR SCHOOLS FOOD SERVICE

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