



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

# FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NUTRITION SERVICES

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Date: August 23, 2018  
To: Joy Elementary Staff  
From: Amy Rouse, Nutrition Services Director  
Re: Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program

Joy Elementary School was selected to participate in the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during the 2018-2019 school year. FFVP is a USDA funded and regulated grant program which provides an opportunity for children to experience a range of fresh fruits and vegetables. This program is a provision separate from the USDA National School Lunch Program and there is no charge per student or counting and claiming procedures required.

We will work with Lalaunie Whisenant to ensure a smooth delivery system. Wednesday will be the day the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program will be offered. It will be available at the designated delivery sites from 10:00 – 10:30 am. The program will officially begin on August 29, 2018

Every student is eligible to participate and only the certified teachers in the classrooms may participate. Per USDA guidance, **no items can be taken home and must be consumed in their raw form when possible. All cooking or preparation must occur in the DEC inspected school kitchen.** The intent of the program is for students to consume fresh fruits and vegetables during the school day, separately from the lunch or breakfast meal. Students with medically documented allergies must have the Food Substitution form on file with Nutrition Services before substitutions can be made.

One portion is to be taken for each child and teacher in the class. If there are items left, they are to be consumed by students during the school day but not necessarily on the day of service. Consumption of leftover items can carry over to the following day. I found this Q&A that will help answer the question regarding which adults can participate and which cannot.

**Question:** Can adults participate in the FFVP?

**Answer:** Teachers may participate under the following conditions:

- Only teachers who are directly responsible for serving the fruit or vegetable to their students in a classroom setting may partake of the fruit and/or vegetable
- The FFVP is not available to the general teacher population and other adults in the school
- Teachers choosing to participate with their students are strongly encouraged to include a nutrition education component to enhance their positive role modeling

Proper washing and sanitation processes must be followed. Please keep these clean and sanitary by using the kitchen for the proper wash and sanitizing procedure. The bowl and tote is your responsibility to maintain and should be washed on a monthly basis. As with any food, please adhere to appropriate food safety practices such as properly washed hands and produce and wearing gloves appropriately.

Feedback on what is being eaten well and what is not is critical to the program's success. We welcome suggestions on items to offer. We look forward to working with you ensuring our students are nutritionally sound and academically successful.

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