

USDA issues new meal requirements

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

The United States Department of Agriculture has recently issued new school menu requirements that will be effective for the 2012-13 school year.

This means Haxtun, Holyoke and Fleming students will see some changes in the foods served at school this year.

Chartwells School Dining Services manages the food service department at Haxtun, Holyoke and Fleming School Districts and has made strides in incorporating several positive initiatives that will allow for a smooth transition to the new meal requirements.

One major adjustment for students will be that their meal must include at least 1/2 cup of a fruit or vegetable in order to be considered a complete meal.

Other changes, which are already in progress, include incorporating more whole grains, a limit on bread and protein servings and a reduction in fats and sodium, or salt.

The change in legislation means an increase in food cost and an increase in transportation and fuel costs, which could result in meal price increases. Meal prices will be determined by Haxtun, Holyoke and Fleming leadership and will be communicated accordingly.

Chartwells and Haxtun, Holyoke and Fleming are dedicated to providing quality nutritious meals that students will enjoy and choose to eat.

Holyoke Enterprise August 30, 2012

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