Celebrate Connecticut!
Past, Present and Future
The HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC)
HUSSC Trailblazers for Connecticut

* West Hartford Public School District (7/11 – 7/15)
* Ridgefield Public Schools (10/11 – 10/15)
* New London School District (7/11 – 7/15)
* Norwalk Public Schools (7/11 – 7/15)
* Stamford Public School District (7/11 – 7/15)
* Stonington Public School District (7/11 – 7/15)
* Weston Public Schools (7/11 – 7/15)
* Wilton Public Schools (7/11 – 7/15)

41 CT HUSSC SCHOOLS
HUSSC SWEEPS CT

* ACES Magnet Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Bethany Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Branford Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Capitol Regional Education Council (4/13 – 4/17)
* East Hartford Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* East Haven Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Hamden Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Meriden Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* New Britain Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Newtown Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Old Saybrook Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Portland Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Putnam Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Shelton Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Southington Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Cheshire Public Schools (3/13 – 3/17)

* Ledyard Public Schools (3/13 – 3/17)
* Stratford Public Schools (3/13 – 3/17)
* Southington Public Schools (4/13 – 4/17)
* Windham Public Schools (3/13 – 3/17)
* Waterbury Public Schools (2/13 – 2/17)
* Fairfield Public Schools (1/13 – 1/17)
* Coventry Public Schools (12/12 – 12/16)
* South Windsor Public Schools (12/12 – 12/16)
* Windsor Public Schools (12/12 – 12/16)
* Milford Public Schools (11/12 – 11/16)
* North Haven Public Schools (11/12 – 11/16)
* Wallingford Public Schools (11/12 – 11/16)
* Norwalk Public Schools (10/12 – 10/16)
* Wilton Public Schools (8/12 – 8/16)
* Region 18 School District (6/12 – 6/16)
* Norwalk Public Schools (3/1 – 3/16)

New Total: 217 CT
HUSSC SCHOOLS
Award winners 2012 criteria
New Milford – Bronze Awards

- Hill and Plain Elementary School
- John Pettibone Elementary School
- Northville Elementary School
- Sarah Noble Intermediate School
Hartford – Silver Award

Maria C. Colon Sanchez Elementary School
Meriden – Gold of Distinction

- Casimir Pulaski Elementary School
TOTAL CONNECTICUT HUSSC SCHOOLS

223
Congratulations to All the Winners!
HealthierUS School Challenge Gets Smart!
Smarter Lunchrooms (SL) and the NEW HUSSC: SL Application

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Consultant
State Education Resource Center
HealthierUS School Challenge: Smarter Lunchrooms (HUSSC: SL) 101

- Old vs. New Criteria
- Why apply?
- Smarter Lunchrooms: A Closer Look
Voluntary award opportunity to recognize excellent schools that
- improve the quality of the foods served
- provide students with nutrition education
- provide students with physical education and opportunities for physical activity

* Sponsored by USDA Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)
* Goal is to promote improved school health environments
* 4-year certification period

* 4 award levels
  - Bronze
  - Silver
  - Gold
  - Gold Award of Distinction

* Can apply as district in single application
General Criteria for all award levels

- Enrolled as Team Nutrition school
- Participate in NSLP and SBP
- Corrective action from most recent state review completed
- Smarter Lunchrooms techniques implemented in 6 areas (Fruits, Veggies, Entrees, Milk, Sales of Reimbursable Meals and School Synergies)
- 6 Cent Certification
New HUSSC: SL criteria released by USDA on August 31, 2014

Major changes to criteria include
- No more menu submission
- Addition of Smarter Lunchrooms
- Smart Snacks replaced Competitive Foods
- Additional options for “Other Criteria for Excellence”
- Nutrition education must include USDA resources
Why Apply?

* Recognizes school’s efforts
* Monetary incentive
* Boosts staff morale
* Publicizes positive school wellness climate to parents and school community
* New application!
Smarter Lunchrooms: A Closer Look

- Smarter Lunchrooms Movement started in 2009
- Cornell’s Behavioral Economics in Child Nutrition (BEN) Center
- Sustainable, evidence-based approach to creating school cafeterias that promote healthy eating
Part of HUSSC: SL application

Addresses cafeteria practices around fruits, vegetables, entrees, milk, reimbursable meal sales and school synergies

Tool to improve SL practices

Smarter Lunchrooms: A Closer Look

Instructions

Download the assessment below. Celebrate your achievements, your success stories and your school building. Indicate whether the statement is True for your school by checking the box to the left. After you have completed the checklist, tally all boxes with check marks and locate this number in the designated area on the back of the form. This number represents your school’s baseline score. The boxes which are not checked are areas of opportunity for you to consider implementing in the future. We recommend completing this checklist annually to measure progress.

Important Words

Service Area: Any location where students gather to purchase food, purchase tickets for school events or activities. The cafeteria is an example of a service area. The lunchroom is another example of a service area.

Fruit

- Fruit is available at all points of sale (deli, lunch counter, milk bars, cafeteria)
- Daily fruit options are available at least six days a week.
- Whole fruit (apples, pears, oranges, etc.) is available.
- Daily fruit options are available in all service areas.
- Daily fruit options are available in all service areas.
- Fruit options are available in all service areas.

Vegetables

- Vegetables are available at all points of sale.
- Daily vegetable options are available in all service areas.
- Vegetable options are available in all service areas.

Entrees

- Entrees are available at all points of sale.
- Daily entree options are available in all service areas.
- Daily entree options are available in all service areas.

Milk

- Milk is available at all points of sale.
- Daily milk options are available in all service areas.
- Daily milk options are available in all service areas.

Reimbursable Meal Sales

- Reimbursable meal sales are available for purchase in all service areas.
- Reimbursable meal sales are available for purchase in all service areas.
- Reimbursable meal sales are available for purchase in all service areas.

School Synergies

- School synergies are available in all service areas.
- School synergies are available in all service areas.
- School synergies are available in all service areas.

Measuring More With Milks

- All beverage vendors have white milk available.
- Milk is available at all points of sale.
- Milk is available in all service areas.

Promoting Vegetables & Fruits

- Vegetables are available at all points of sale.
- Vegetables are available at all points of sale.
- Vegetables are available at all points of sale.

Food Safety

- Food safety is available at all points of sale.
- Food safety is available at all points of sale.
- Food safety is available at all points of sale.

Serving as Fruit

- At least two types of fruit are available daily.
- Fruit options are available in all service areas.
- Fruit options are available in all service areas.

School Lunchrooms Self-Assessment

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Become A Smarter Lunchrooms Detective!
Get Ready!

* Skim through the checklist
* Orient yourself with the cafeteria locations and gather resources you may need, e.g. menus, meeting minutes, newsletters, people
* Complete one section of the checklist at a time
* If a statement is not 100% true for your school, do not check the box!
Focusing on Fruit
Focusing on Fruit
Focusing on Fruit
Focusing on Fruit
Promoting Vegetables and Salad
Promoting Vegetables and Salad
Promoting Vegetables and Salad
Promoting Vegetables and Salad
Promoting Vegetables and Salad
Promoting Vegetables and Salad
Moving More White Milk
Moving More White Milk
Entrée of the Day

LUNCH

BEEF OR VEGGIE PATTY ON WHOLE GRAIN ROLL
LETTUCE, TOMATO, CHEESE
GREEN BEANS
FRESH FRUIT OR JUICE
Milk Choice

04/23/2014
Entrée of the Day
Entrée of the Day
Increasing Sales: Reimbursable Meals
Increasing Sales: Reimbursable Meals

Juice, no milk
Creating School Synergies: Signage
Signage, Priming & Communication
Signage, Priming & Communication
Signage, Priming & Communication
Lunchroom Atmosphere
Lunchroom Atmosphere
Lunchroom Atmosphere
Creating School Synergies

Math Bulletin Board
Creating School Synergies
Cafeteria Culture

- With the help of students, teachers and the principal, form a cafeteria decoration committee. With your team, select a theme for each month’s decorations.

- With your school nutrition professionals, identify areas of the cafeteria where decorations can highlight nutrient-rich choices—such as the salad bar, the milk cooler, etc.

- With your team, create signs that are fun and provide information about the importance of eating healthy foods. The school nurse, health educators and school nutrition professionals can help. Be sure to present information in a fun way, such as in a trivia question format.

- For more ideas, check out the resources and images in Tools and Resources for ideas and inspiration. Your newly decorated cafeteria can inspire everyone at your school to increase their healthy eating activities!
Next Steps

Does your school meet the minimum HUSSC: SL criteria for the desired award level?

- **Yes**
  - Gather supporting documentation
    - Pictures, copies of certificates, meeting minutes, newsletters

- **No**
  - Create priority list of checklist items to implement
    - “Low hanging fruit” – Which items were > 50% in place?
    - Utilize BEN Center and CSDE resources to ID actionable items
Resources

* CSDE HUSSC: SL Resource Page

* USDA HUSSC: SL
Contact Us!

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Thank you!