



Newsletter

Summer 2017

What a year it has been! Across Toronto, more students are participating in Student Nutrition Programs than ever before. It's been wonderful to see new programs get off the ground, and established programs find new and innovative ways of engaging with students, encouraging healthy choices, and having an all-around great time! From all of us at Student Nutrition Toronto, we wish the whole SNP community a happy, healthy, and delicious summer.

See you next year!



TDSB Volunteer Recognition

Every year during May, the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) recognizes all the volunteers that donate their time in the over 585 student nutrition programs running in TDSB schools across the city. This year we recognized close to 1,800 volunteers with certificates and a personal letter from the Director of Education thanking them for their support and commitment to student nutrition. These volunteers include parents, community and corporate members as well as our very own students.

We would like to highlight one group of special needs students at JG Workman Public School that help every day with the delivery of the nutrition bins full of food to the classrooms. The nutrition program enables the students to reach their full potential through the successful participation in this experiential learning opportunity. They become more self-confident, learn about healthy eating, feel they are contributing to society and learn life skills. Well Done! Congratulations and thank you to all our volunteers, we couldn't do it without you!

Angela Dozzi
Coordinator, Student Nutrition Program | TDSB



2017 Volunteer Appreciation Events

Each spring, as the school year draws to a close, we invite the individuals who devote their time and energies to sustain over 800 Student Nutrition Programs (SNPs) to celebrate their achievements at our Coordinator and Volunteer Training and Appreciation Events. Your efforts bring awareness to the importance of student nutrition and have a lasting impact on 194,000+ children who participate in SNPs.

This year we were pleased to welcome coordinators, volunteers, and supporters, both veterans and newcomers, at eight locations across the city: Lakeshore C.I., Thistletown C.I., Marc Garneau C.I., Maplewood H.S., City Adult Learning Centre, Central Technical School, St. Mother Teresa Academy and Northview Heights S.S. We are grateful to the culinary arts programs at these sites for their hospitality, and for the talent and creativity that shaped the meals we shared. Those who attended let us know they were thankful for the students' hard work and impressed by the variety of foods that showcase the diverse communities that comprise our schools and, on a greater scale, our city.



We were happy to be able to focus our presentation on highlighting forums where you can connect with your peers year-round. Both the SNT website and Community Connect workshops allow you to learn best practices and share new strategies. Community development is key to our collective work. In a letter of thanks to the volunteers, coordinators, and site authorities that support SNPs, Yvonne DeWit, Chair of the Student Nutrition Toronto Committee, stated: "when you volunteer, you make a choice about the kind of community you want to live in". Your voice and actions encourage, inspire, and educate those you work with and extend to the broader community, illustrating the value of student nutrition in the development of our children and youth.

To all volunteers, Program Coordinators, Administrators, Staff, Parents and student who contribute to SNPs across Toronto, thank you for the invaluable work that you do!

SNP Community: reaching beyond the school walls

While each school is a community in itself, it's important to remember that it is also a part of a larger community, beyond parents, teachers, staff and students, that includes neighbours, local businesses, and organizations. When the wider community gets involved in supporting SNPs, it helps programs thrive and builds connections beyond the school walls. A wonderful example of this community connection is Jennifer Morin who went out of her way to host a bake sale at her workplace to raise money for a new SNP that needed an extra boost to get their program off the ground. It's because of her support, coming from outside of the school community, that one school's students have new access to nutritious food each day. Thank you to Jennifer, and to all individuals and organizations who help build stronger communities by supporting SNPs!

Tips for Closing Your Program

The end of the year is here! School's out for summer! Time to throw our books and tests up in the air and run wild and free into the summer!

But, before we do that, here are a few things to do to close up your SNP:

Food

- Plan out your menu for the remaining school days to use up all the food you have left, to minimize food waste



Equipment & Facilities

- Give all work surfaces, appliances, and kitchenware a thorough cleaning before placing them in storage for the summer. Have some questions on how to clean kitchen appliances? Check out the latest SNT eLearning tutorial on How to Clean Kitchen Equipment here: <http://www.studentnutritionontario.ca/snt-elearning-hub.html>



Finances

- Make sure all your monthly reports have been submitted, and use up any remaining vouchers or coupons your program may have received throughout the year.

Volunteers & Community

- Remember to thank all staff, parents and volunteers who contributed to your program throughout the year.
- Plan ahead by speaking with your volunteers about next year's SNP, and put the word out should new volunteers be needed.
- Have a final meeting with your Administrators, teachers, lead volunteers and anyone who makes up your Local Program Committee to review how the program went this year & discuss any thoughts on next year's program.

JLL Visits Brock Public School

It's always great when our partners and supporters get the chance to visit a school, lend a hand, and see a program in action. In partnership with Breakfast Club of Canada, the folks at Jones Lange Lasalle (JLL) are the latest group to visit a program, and they brought bunches of smiles with them! The JLL team spent a day putting together Smile Bags, filled with healthy snacks, for the students at Brock Street Public School, and a group of volunteers got up bright and early to visit the program to deliver the bags to each classroom. What a great way to celebrate the end of the school year!



End-of-the-Year Financials Wrap Up

As programs are wrapping up for the year, it's the perfect time to review all your financial records, reports, and receipts to make sure everything is updated and in order. Remember, financial reports should be submitted each month, and report templates may be found on the SNT website:

<http://www.studentnutritionontario.ca/finance-reporting.html>

Have any questions, or need help with local or parental donations? Contact your foundation for support!

TDSB & Community Sites:

Anne Turpin, Senior SNP Analyst
Toronto Foundation for Student Success
Tel: 416-394-7355
Email: Anne.Turpin@tdsb.on.ca

TCDSB Sites

Tina Giustizia, Nutrition Manager of Operations
The Angel Foundation For Learning
Tel: 416-222-8282 x2194
Email: tina.giustizia@tcdsb.org

Freezing Food for the Summer

As SNPs are wrapping up for the year, some programs have food left over and want to freeze the food for use in September. Toronto Public Health does not recommend that programs freeze food over the summer because food quality may be affected by:

- Power outage
- Tampering

Food that is stored needs to be regularly checked by someone. However, if you are thinking of storing food in the freezer, here is some important information from Toronto Public Health:

1. Safe food storage tips: click [here](#)
2. Information on power failure and food safety: click [here](#)

If you have any questions, contact Toronto Public Health at 416-338-7600.

Promoting SNPs with Info Boards

Getting students engaged in Student Nutrition Programs (SNPs) is a great way to get them thinking about nutrition, and have them contribute to the school community.

The Grade 7 students at St. Raphael's Catholic School's SNP really got into the swing of things by creating an information board promoting healthy food choices, right alongside the SNP bulletin board, which highlights the many happy faces of students eating nutritious meals at school. This is a great way to have older students get involved and promote your school's SNP to the younger students.

Keep up the great work!



Want to learn more?

www.studentnutritionontario.ca ~ 416-394-7253 ~ info@studentnutritionontario.ca