



LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUCKNER M. CREEL
ADMINISTRATOR FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE

September 8, 2011

To: School Committee
Mickey Brandmeyer
From: Buckner Creel

Subject: Healthier US Schools Challenge (HUSSC)

Background. The HUSSC is a voluntary initiative established in 2004 by the Food and Nutrition Service to recognize schools participating in the National School Lunch Program that create healthier school environments by providing nutrition education, nutritious food and beverage choices, physical education and opportunities for physical activity. Among the criteria for certification, schools must offer healthy meals and snacks, nutrition education and physical activity.

Four levels of superior performance are awarded: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Gold of Distinction. The HUSSC criteria reflect the recommendations of the *2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and the Institute of Medicine (IOM) published recommendations (April 2007) for foods that should be served in schools, outside of the organized school lunch meals. Included in the criteria is the level of participation by the students in the School Lunch Program.

At the Committee's meeting on May 23, 2011, Food Service Director Cathleen Higgins presented the steps leading up to the application for the HUSSC certification for the Smith lunch program. The district chose to pursue HUSSC recognition at the Silver level because of the meal participation requirements. Smith's participation with Type A reimbursable meals averages over 60 % average daily participation (ADP). The qualification for Gold or Gold of Distinction is an average of over 70% ADP for meals served. This level is our long-standing target which we will continue to pursue in FY12.

The application was submitted on April 28, 2011, and was reviewed by several Commonwealth and federal agencies. Their review resulted in a determination that our participation rate was officially 59.8%, 0.2% below the threshold for recognition at the Silver level. We passed all other criteria for HUSSC certification, and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded the Bronze certification in August. The USDA will send us an official award letter, and arrange for a photo-op, but their website proudly announces our achievement (see attached screen shot)

We can reapply in one year for the Silver certification level if our participation increases. I believe that the Smith Building has received the significant benefits of the HUSSC by achieving the Bronze level, and so we plan to expand this program to the Hanscom Campus in the 2011-2012 school year.



Search FNS

Go

- Search all USDA
- Search Tips
- Topics A-Z

Email Updates



Sign-up to receive free email updates

Browse by Audience

Information For ...

Browse by Subject

- ▶ Join the Team
- ▶ **HealthierUS Schools**
- ▶ Local Wellness Policy
- ▶ Training Grants
- ▶ Resource Library
- ▶ MyPyramid for Kids
- ▶ Eat Smart. Play Hard.

You are here: [Home](#) > [HealthierUS Schools](#) > [Award Winners](#) > [Massachusetts](#)

HealthierUS School Challenge

Recognizing Excellence in Nutrition and Physical Activity

Massachusetts Award Winners

Bellingham School District (7/11 – 7/15)

- Clara Macy Elementary School (Bronze)
- South Elementary School (Bronze)
- Stall Brook Elementary School (Bronze)

Central Berkshire Regional School District (7/11 – 7/15)

- Becket Washington School (Bronze)
- Berkshire Trail Elementary School (Silver)
- Craneville Elementary School (Bronze)
- Kittredge Elementary School (Gold)
- Nessacus Regional Middle School (Bronze)

Lincoln Public Schools (7/11 – 7/15)

- Lincoln School (Bronze)

Somerville Public School District (8/09 – 7/11)

- Dr. Albert F. Argenziano School at Lincoln Park (Gold)
- Arthur D. Healey School (Bronze)
- West Somerville Neighborhood School (Bronze)

HUSSC

- Vision
- Application Materials
- Competitive Foods Calculator
- Promotional Materials
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Award Winning Schools
- Tips from Award Winners

See Also

- Let's Move
- Healthy Meals Resource System (HMRS)

Last modified: 08/31/2011