



## CASE STUDY

## MACDONALD ELEMENTARY (K-5), ANCHOR BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT, CASCO, MI

## CLASSROOM PARTY/CELEBRATION

Once a month, students at MacDonald Elementary who have exhibited positive behavior have the opportunity to join the principal, Sherri Hoffman, for a special lunch. In the past, the special lunch menu included pizza, chips and soft drinks. In 2009, Hoffman and the elementary cook, Lisa Allor, gave the menu a makeover. The chips and soft drinks were replaced with fresh fruit, fresh vegetables and low-fat milk.

“We make up a beautiful vegetable tray with two to three different types of vegetables,” said Allor. “We’ve offered cucumber slices, broccoli, green pepper wedges, celery sticks, and carrot sticks along with a lite ranch dipping sauce. On the fruit tray we offer a few choices such as sliced oranges, grapes, pineapple, apple slices and bananas. The kids serve themselves with tongs and they each get their own little cup of dipping sauce. We never have anything left over.”

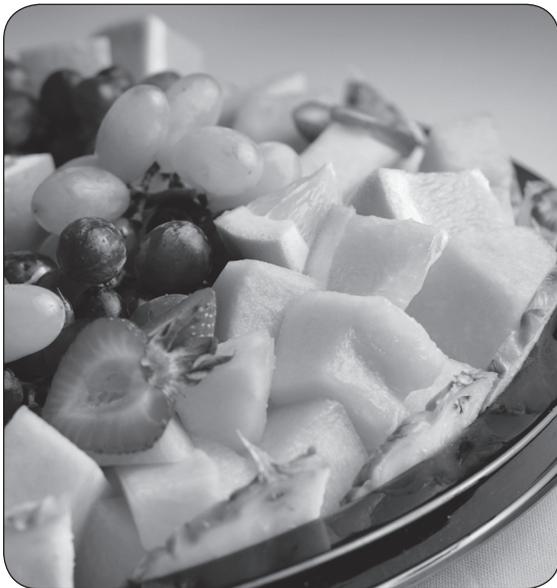
Students are eligible to have lunch with the principal when they collect 25 PAWS tickets. PAWS (proud to be me, always respectful, willing to be responsible, and a safe citizen) tickets are awarded when a staff member sees a student listening, following directions and being considerate to others. When a student earns 25 PAWS tickets, an invitation to the lunch celebration is sent home.

Students can also redeem PAWS tickets for items from the PAWS cart including stickers and pencils.

More and more students are choosing to save their PAWS tickets for the lunch celebration instead of “spending” them on items from the PAWS cart. As more students save enough PAWS tickets to eat lunch with the principal, the lunch celebration is becoming more popular.

“We are aiming to make the next generation healthier,” said Allor. “And I know the memories we are making for the students at our school will last a lifetime.”

LISA ALLOR, ELEMENTARY COOK



The lunch celebration takes place once a month in the library or art room during the first recess and lunch period. “Our students look forward to eating lunch with the principal—sharing time together, talking and eating,” said Allor. “The kids have the chance to meet other students from different grades. I see the kids helping each other out—holding doors open for each other and getting milk out of the milk cooler for someone else.”

The monthly lunch celebrations run October through May. The foodservice department covers the cost of the food which varies depending on the number of students who choose to attend the special lunch.