



August, 2017

Dear Parent(s),

Back to school is an exciting time for students and families, and as the beginning of the school year quickly approaches, we want to extend a warm welcome back to school and back to your school café! Los Alamos Public Schools (LAPS) and Chartwells K12 are eager to welcome you and your student back to the school café with new flavors, events, food and wellness education that are surely going to inspire a healthy and fun 2017-18 school year!

### **New Menus and Café Spaces**

Los Alamos Public Schools has renewed their commitment with Chartwells K12 for the 2017 -2018 school year. The Chartwells chefs and dietitians have been hard at work testing and developing a fresh, new menu for the coming school year designed specifically for LAPS students that includes a wide variety of healthy and delicious options. These menus were created based on everyday conversations as well as local food trends, flavors and produce. The new menu includes:

- **Chickendipity Buffalo Blue Wrap**
- **Homestyle Meatloaf with a Green Chili Gravy**
- **Santa Fe Turkey and Cheddar Wrap**

### **Fresh Produce and Local Partners**

Infusing fresh and local flavors into the school menu is a priority for our chefs, and we are proud to support local and regional farmers, growers and companies, bringing LAPS students the freshest possible produce while supporting the local economy as much as possible. Fresh produce and products on the menu this year include:

- **Sweet Potato Fries**
- **Cilantro Lime Rice**
- **Seasoned Broccoli**
- **Savory Green beans**
- **Seasonal Vegetables**
- **Kale Caesar**

### **Gardens**

In addition to sourcing authentic ingredients, we are thrilled to introduce fresh, seasonal herbs and spices grown where ever possible by our students through school gardens. Students who have a hand in planting, tending and harvesting garden produce are more likely to try what they grow and are also more likely to try new fruits and vegetables in general. We are committed to supporting edible education throughout the district, and students will see classroom education and information around planting and growing gardens throughout the school year

### **Mobile Menus are in Your Hands**

Introduced last year! Nutrislice brings the power of the school menu, nutrition and allergen information right to the palm of your hand! In addition to nutrition information, Nutrislice tells the café menu story with real photos taken by Chartwells chefs in schools, full menu descriptions as well as café event information, nutrition education and food stories helping students connect the foods they eat in the café to its origins and health benefits.

Nutrislice is available online through smartphones and the web! Download the free Nutrislice App from the App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android).

**Welcome Back** and we look forward to serving the Los Alamos and White Rock communities!



**Simply Good & Chefs2Schools:**

Throughout the year, LAPS students will have the opportunity to learn about healthier food options through fun and engaging activities that we have planned in the school cafeteria through our *Simply Good* food and nutrition education program brought to the café by Chartwells chefs and dietitians. *Simply Good* has a culinary emphasis that focuses on healthier meal options, especially ones with fruits, vegetables, whole grains and lean proteins. In addition, students will have the opportunity to meet and engage with real Chartwells chefs through fun, exciting culinary demonstrations and new food samplings. We will feature a variety of themes and events - look for more information on these special events coming soon.

**From the Café to the Community**

Chartwells K12 and LAPS are excited to share new and continued community programs for the coming year, including an enduring commitment to anti-bullying awareness and prevention. As an organization, last April, Chartwells K12 introduced #JustStandUp encouraging students to stand up for those being bullied with the launch of our #JustStandUp video produced in collaboration with Hampton Creek and Prevent Child Abuse America. Students will continue to see positive social behavior modeled and discussed throughout the café and for more information to support discussions with your child, please visit ChartwellsK12.com.

If you have any questions about the food service program please feel free to reach out to Joe Palmer, Director of Human Resources for LAPS or contact me at the Dining Services office. Contact details are listed below

Best Regards,

**Mia Holsapple**

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Chartwells K12

To learn more about Chartwells K12, visit our website at [<Insert School Dining Website or www.ChartwellsK12.com>](#).