

# Agriculture Outlook Forum Session

Thursday, February 19, 2015

3:45-5:15 pm

# Montgomery County Public Schools

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- 16th largest school system in USA
- 202 Schools
- Student enrollment: 154,350
- Students eligible for FARMS: 35%

# Services provided:

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- Breakfast: >35,000 daily
- Lunch: >65,000 daily
- After school snacks: ~4,000 daily
- After school suppers: ~5,000 daily
- Weekend meals: ~2,000 day
- Summer food service program ~10,000 daily

## Take it down a notch:

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- 75 / 202 schools receive breakfast in classroom
- Many after school snacks / suppers distributed by program staff (accountability issues)

# Elementary School Meals



# Secondary School Meals



# Struggles and Challenges

# Packaging

- Products needs to fit into preplate container
- Individual packaging needed for universal breakfast, after school snacks and summer meals

# Whole Grains

- Student acceptability
  - color
  - taste
  - texture

# Fruits and Vegetables

- Serving sizes
- Individual packages
- Cost per unit
- Variety

# Reduced Sodium

- Student acceptability
- Meets smart snacks regulations

# Move to Scratch Cooking/ Clean label

- Searching for less colors, artificial flavors, preservatives
- Interest in serving more items that appear home cooked

# Farm to School

- Purchasing processes
- Cost

# Technical Assistance

- Recipe development
- Product demonstration/application