

Press Release



Battle Ground Public Schools

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Caption: Battle Ground School Board members, from left, John Idsinga, Monty Anderson and Steve Pagel serve lunch 10-12-10 at Yacolt Primary in observance of National School Lunch Week.

Battle Ground school meals get more healthful

There are fewer processed-food entrees and more made-from-scratch meals on the menu in Battle Ground Public Schools this year, and the kids are eating them up.

That's the word from Russ Kallwick, local director of the school district's contract food provider, Sodexo Nutrition Services.

"We made some significant changes to our primary-level menu this year," Kallwick said on the second day of National School Lunch Week, Oct. 11-15. "We reduced the number of entrees we offer each day from five to four. They include a specialty salad, a sandwich, a convenience entrée and a featured entrée."

Tuesday (Oct. 12), at Yacolt Primary, as three Battle Ground School Board members worked the serving line in recognition of the special week, the featured entrée was macaroni and cheese and the convenience entrée was chicken nuggets. The others were a hero sandwich on whole wheat and a crispy chef salad.

The school year is still young, but the early returns show the new array is popular. "We are on track to serve 40,000 more meals this year than we did last school year," Kallwick said. "The changes mean a reduction in the number of processed items by at least 40 percent." One of the specific changes: elimination of chocolate milk as an option at breakfast for kindergarten – through fourth grade students.

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More information: battlegroundps.org, then "Our Schools" tab and scroll to School Meals; Russ Kallwick, Sodexo Nutrition Services, 885-6539.

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