

Communicating your Sustainability Initiatives to Administration

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Why Communicate

- **Your role is important**
- **You have achieved a great deal**
- **You need resources to do more**
- **Nutrition is the foundation for success**

Who needs to hear your message?

- **Your Staff**
- **The Kids!**
- **District Staff**
- **Administration**
- **School Board**
- **Parents**

How to Communicate

- **Newsletters**
- **Website**
- **Educational Programs**
- **School Board Presentation**

What to Communicate

- **Cost Savings**
- **Better for Kids**
- **Community Benefits**
- **Local Support**

Challenges & Mandates

- **Food Safety**
- **Wellness**
- **Allergies**
- **Locally Sourced Foods**
- **Sustainability**
- **Water**
- **Waste/Recycling**
- **Budget**

What are you doing already?

- **Food Safety**
- **Offer vs. Serve Program (USDA)**
- **Food Waste**
- **Fresh Foods Sourced Locally?**
- **Re-Use**
- **Energy Star & Water Conserving Appliances**

What are you doing already?

- **Minimize Packaging**
- **Recycling Programs**
- **Water Conservation**
- **Cleaning Program**
 - **Detergents**
 - **Processes & Procedures**

Before Setting up Meeting with Administration

- **Contact your vendors**
- **Prepare and give report on current environmental impact of department**
- **Determine if there is any low hanging fruit**
- **Prepare a plan to implement future initiatives**

Data, Data, Data

- **Gather feedback from students and teachers**
- **Keep track of the numbers**
- **Savings through conservation**
- **Put it into perspective**

Resources

- **School Nutrition Association**
- **Local Chapters**
- **Illinois EPA**
- **USDA**
- **Healthy Schools Campaign**
- **Green Drinks**

Presentation Resources

- Farm to School – www.farmtoschool.org
- Rethinking School Lunch Guide – www.rethinkingschoollunch.org
- Illinois EPA Green Schools Checklist – www.epa.state.il.us/p2/green-schools/green-schools-checklist.pdf
- North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources – www.pay2pays.org
- Healthy Schools Campaign - www.healthyschoolscampaign.org
- The Little Green Schoolhouse – www.greenschools.net