



Dr. Hillary Stanifer
Superintendent, Blue Ridge CUSD#18
411 N. John Street, Farmer City, IL 61842
Phone: 309 928-9141
Email: hstanifer@blueridge18.org

May 25, 2021

The district was informed earlier this school year that we were due to complete a Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment. In reviewing our School Wellness Policy 6:50 and researching model policy, it was determined that we would take a few actions steps yet this school year. The first action step was asking our Food Services Director, Mrs. Tonya Evans, to conduct focus groups with students regarding the status of the district food service program.

Mrs. Evans conducted focus groups with current 7th-11th grade students during the month of May. What she learned from the conversations at the 7th and 8th grade level is that the students preferred the meals prepared in the district kitchen over pre-prepared meals which were utilized this school year due to COVID-19 restrictions. The students love the fresh fruits and vegetables and would appreciate a greater variety of fruits and vegetables. Other favorites included chicken patty, chicken nuggets, and mashed potatoes. The turkey was rated much lower on their list. For the 9th-11th grade students, they would like to see chicken and noodles reappear on the menu. They would like to see more fresh peaches and kiwi, and they would like to give kale a try! They like just about anything that is combined with hashbrowns and they would appreciate having a greater variety of Oriental dishes on the menu. Other menu requests include a yogurt meal and burritos. Surprisingly, the high school students expressed that they don't want pizza every Friday and that they are anxious to return to the serving line at Schneider when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. They would also appreciate the administration considering outside seating for lunch when the weather permits.

The second action step that we are taking is to institute a District Wellness Committee. This committee will meet at least annually to discuss 1) the current status of district programs aimed at addressing health and wellness of staff and students, and 2) the possibility of offering new initiatives. This committee may decide to meet more than annually as needed. Mrs. Tonya Evans will lead the committee; invitees will include PE and health teachers, district nurses, parents, and interested community members with a background in the field of wellness and nutrition. You are welcome to email Mrs. Tonya Evans (tevens@blueridge18.org) if you would be interested in receiving additional information about the meeting date and location. We anticipate our first meeting will be held in September of 2021.

Respectfully,

Dr. Hillary Stanifer

Mrs. Mary Diener, BRHS Interim Principal Mrs. Lois Dowling, BRHS Interim Director of Student Services
Mrs. Katie Nichols, BRIJHS Principal Mr. Ryan Peyton, Ruth M. Schneider Elementary Principal





Dr. Hillary Stanifer
Superintendent, Blue Ridge CUSD#18
411 N. John Street, Farmer City, IL 61842
Phone: 309 928-9141
Email: hstanifer@blueridge18.org

Mrs. Mary Diener, BRHS Interim Principal Mrs. Lois Dowling, BRHS Interim Director of Student Services
Mrs. Katie Nichols, BRIJHS Principal Mr. Ryan Peyton, Ruth M. Schneider Elementary Principal

