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What's cooking in Jeffco schools?

The start of the 2010-11 school year is bringing some exciting changes to cafeterias across the district. With an emphasis on fresh and local foods, many students will see new choices as they walk down the cafeteria line.

Elementary students will enjoy:

- A new, slimmed down menu featuring one hot entrée, a cold sandwich and four different entrée salads
- Vegetarian choices
- An assortment of three fresh fruit and vegetable offerings daily
- Sunbutter sandwiches made from sunflower seeds and similar in taste to peanut butter (safe for students with peanut allergies)
- Lunch burritos prepared by Culinaire Foods (a Denver company)

Middle and high school students will enjoy:

- Fresh baked bread bowls filled with hearty soups
- Fruit and yogurt parfaits
- Four different entrée salads
- Expansion of the "bar" concept with Build Your Own Burritos, Build Your Own Asian Bowl and Build Your Own Burger (including chicken and veggie burgers)

Many of the entrees that students enjoy will no longer be "heat and serve" items, but will be made from scratch right in their school cafeteria.

In addition, all canned vegetables have been replaced with frozen or fresh items when they are available and affordable. Canned fruits will be limited and will all be "packed in juice" rather than syrup.