

For Immediate Release

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Pflugerville Elementary Schools meet the HealthierUS School Challenge

(Pflugerville, TX – May 29, 2013) Pflugerville Independent School District and ARAMARK Education are honored to be awarded the latest certification of the HealthierUS School Challenge for Pflugerville elementary schools. The HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) is a voluntary certification initiative recognizing those schools enrolled in Team Nutrition that have created healthier school environments through promotion of nutrition and physical activity. PISD schools are among only five percent of eligible public schools in the United States that have met HealthierUS School Challenge criteria.

This May, Pflugerville ISD Elementary Schools open before 2012 were awarded the HUSSC Bronze Level distinction: Brookhollow Elementary School, Caldwell Elementary School, Copperfield Elementary School, Delco Primary School, Dessau Elementary School, Highland Park Elementary School, Murchison Elementary School, Northwest Elementary School, Parmer Lane Elementary School, Pflugerville Elementary School, Riojas Elementary School, River Oaks Elementary School, Rowe Lane Elementary School, Spring Hill Elementary School, Timmerman Elementary School, Wieland Elementary School, Windermere Elementary School, Windermere Primary School.

The goal of HUSSC is to improve the health of the Nation's children by promoting healthier school environments. To help meet the goal, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) identifies schools that have made changes to

- improve the quality of the foods served,
- provide students with nutrition education, and
- provide students with physical education and opportunities for physical activity.

The initiative encourages all schools take a leadership role in helping students to make healthier eating and physical activity choices that will last a lifetime. Schools that champion the HUSSC, worked hard to make changes to their school environment in order to encourage healthier students and be a leader in efforts to end childhood obesity. The HUSSC application process was led by the ARAMARK Food Services department including a team of school professionals such as, but not limited to, the district's former Athletic Director and Docia Craft, Health & Physical Educator at Murchison Elementary. "This is a very prestigious recognition from the USDA, not only for food services, but for Pflugerville. Less than five percent of eligible educational institutions across the US receive such accolades, and it really shows Pflugerville ISD, ARAMARK, PISD Food Services dedication to the health and wellness of our children. The collaboration between departments, campuses, and communities within Pflugerville has proven successful in instilling healthy foundations in our students, and it is nice to be recognized as such a leader and for such vision. The entire Pflugerville community should be very proud."

Special recognition is also due to ARAMARK Food Service department in partnership with PISD for their efforts in achieving school lunch menu changes leading to a HUSSC Bronze award. Ultimately, FNS would like to see all schools receive a HUSSC award at any one of the four levels of superior performance. Schools awarded receive a monetary incentive, an award plaque signed by a USDA official, a banner to display in their school, and their name listed on the Team Nutrition Web site.

To qualify for an award, a school must submit a formal application and meet basic criteria set forth by the FNS. The HUSSC criteria reflect the recommendations of the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, and the Institute of Medicine (IOM) published recommendations for foods that should be served outside of the organized school meals program. HealthierUS Schools must meet additional criteria demonstrating its commitment to a healthy school environment, as well as implement a local school wellness policy, as mandated by Congress. Schools receiving a HUSSC award commit to meeting the criteria throughout their four year certification period.

For more information on the HealthierUS School Challenge, visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/healthierus/>.

ARAMARK is committed to improving childhood nutrition and creating healthier school environments through nutritious meal offerings and wellness education. To learn more, please visit www.myhealthyforlife.com.

About Pflugerville Independent School District

Pflugerville Independent School District, founded in 1902, is a fast-growth district located in Northeast Travis County. The District encompasses approximately ninety-five square miles and includes all or part of six municipalities including Pflugerville, Austin, Coupland, Hutto, Manor and Round Rock. For more information about Pflugerville Independent School District, please visit www.pfisd.net.

About ARAMARK Education

ARAMARK Education provides a complete range of food, facility, uniform and other support services to more than 500 K-12 school districts in the U.S. It offers public and private education institutions a family of dining and facility services including: on-site and off-site breakfast and lunch meal programs, after-school snacks, catering, nutrition education, retail design and operations, maintenance, custodial, grounds, energy management, construction management, and building commissioning. For more information on ARAMARK's K-12 food service programs, please visit www.aramarkschools.com.

About ARAMARK

ARAMARK delivers experiences that enrich and nourish people's lives through innovative food, facility, and uniform services. United by a passion to serve, our more than 250,000 employees make a meaningful difference each day for millions of people around the world. ARAMARK is recognized among the Most Admired Companies by *FORTUNE* and World's Most Ethical Companies by the Ethisphere Institute. Learn more at www.aramark.com or connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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