

Healthy School Food Maryland

E-Newsletter

March 9, 2016

We Need 18 More Volunteers for 5 Minutes Tomorrow

Healthy School Food Maryland's bills in the state legislature have all had committee hearings and are now awaiting a vote. Every year, many if not most bills die in committee without a vote. We need your help to make sure this will not be the fate of our bills.

Please sign up to make a call tomorrow. We would like the committee and subcommittee chairs responsible for moving our bills to a vote to hear from us every 10 minutes tomorrow. We're still short 18 volunteers. Please sign up to spend 5 minutes to help out this effort: <https://www.volunteersignup.org/KDCBK>. All the instructions are on the sign-up sheet.

National Salad Bar Expert Rodney Taylor to Speak at April 16 Salad Bar Summit

If you haven't heard of Rodney Taylor, you'll want to. He is a dynamic and inspiring speaker, pioneer and expert in revolutionizing school nutrition. He is nationally known for his Farmers' Market Salad Bars, which he established in 1997 while working as director of Food and Nutrition Services in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District in California. Subsequently, he worked for the Riverside Unified School District in California, where he introduced daily salad bars in all 31 elementary schools, with 40-60% of the produce procured from local farmers. His other innovation, the Salad Bar First program, involved directing all children through the salad bar, and redeploying staff to assist and encourage kids to eat a rainbow, while leaving only the hot entrée in the serving line. This fall, Mr. Taylor was recruited to be the new director of Food and Nutrition Services for the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) in Virginia, with the help of our friends at Real Food for Kids in Virginia.

Mr. Taylor will be the keynote speaker in Healthy School Food Maryland's Salad Bar Summit on April 16 at the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville. The keynote address will be from 9:00-10:30 a.m. Tickets for adults are \$10 and for students are \$5. Workshops following the keynote address (until 12:30) are by invitation or application only, so that there is an adequate representation from every school system invited (Montgomery, Baltimore, Frederick, Carroll, Howard, Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties and Baltimore City). Please e-mail info@healthyschoolfoodmd.org if you would like to come to these workshops, and include your role as a stakeholder and your school district. [Purchase tickets here.](#)



Mr. Taylor is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the California Endowment's Health Heroes Award, Loma Linda University Award for The Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles – For Outstanding Commitment to the Public's Health, The Riverside Human Relations Commission Heroes Award, and the NAACP Education Award.

His plan in FCPS, in addition to starting salad bars, is to offer healthier a la carte items for the early grades, reduce processed foods, and replace those foods with fresh foods and scratch cooking whenever possible, to ensure healthy, wholesome meals to children. His vision is to change perceptions about school food service, by bringing in fresh and local foods. [Get your tickets now for the Salad Bar Summit!](#)

Mission: Healthy School Food Maryland is a coalition of organizations and individuals in Maryland working for whole, real, local and safe foods for children in Maryland school cafeterias.

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