

SOUTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOPEWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LIBERTY BELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

IMPORTANT MESSAGE CONCERNING EDIBLE TREATS IN SCHOOL

August 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In an effort to support the district policy promoting student and employee wellness, the elementary schools of Southern Lehigh are taking steps to encourage and maintain safe and healthy school environments.

To this end, we would like to remind all parents that edible birthday treats or offerings of food brought to school to mark special occasions not associated with school/PTA organized classroom parties will no longer be accepted.

We kindly request your cooperation with this procedure. Please know that we still intend to celebrate student accomplishments and special days in our school year. Parents wishing to have their child's birthday celebrated in school may send **non-edible treats**, such as pencils, eraser toppers, stickers, or a book donation to the school/classroom library.

The elementary schools will continue the practice of limited classroom parties to celebrate special occasions in our year. If you are contacted for a food donation, we ask that you bring in only the menu item that is suggested. In this way, we expect to be better able to offer a more balanced selection of healthy food during these special celebrations. **We ask parent to realize there are students in our schools with significant and potentially life threatening food-allergies. For this reason, we cannot accept homemade food items.**

It is our hope that through these efforts we may 1) improve student and employee wellness through practices that encourage physical fitness and healthy eating, 2) serve as support to reduce the national and local trend showing increasing numbers of students with Body Mass indexes (BMI) that place them in the "at risk" or in the currently overweight category, 3) respond to state and federal legislation, and 4) raise school-community awareness concerning the impact of diet in all children.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and for the overwhelming support you've already shown to our instituting these initiatives.

Respectfully,

Lori Limpar, Hopewell Principal

Sam Hafner, Liberty Bell Principal