TAKE A STAND.

On average, adults over 45 sit for over 12 of 16 waking hours. That’s 75% of every day! And guess what? On average, kids aged 8-18 sit EVEN MORE than adults – about 4.5 hours a day at school, another 7 hours of sitting in front of various screens outside of school, plus time for driving to school, eating meals, doing homework. Add it all together and the average kid is sitting for 85% of their waking hours each and every day. Health experts say that prolonged sitting can shorten our lives as much as smoking, and they advise that everyone stand much more at work and school and try not to sit for more than 30 minutes at a stretch. Want to learn (and scare yourself) more? Check out www.standupkids.org/standing-vs-sitting, the website that provided much of the info for this month’s “Wellness Is A Way of Life” newsletter.

EAT BETTER. PLAY HARDER. LIVE HEALTHIER. LEARN EASIER.

WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!™

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
EAT BETTER
Try lots of different fruits, veggies, and whole grains for a healthy diet. You’re bound to find a few you really like!

GRAPEs
Grapes are a great walking-around food – they’re plenty good for you, and kids love them! But behind hot dogs and candy, whole grapes are the third worst food for choking risk, so ALWAYS cut them in half LENGTH-WISE before letting little kids (sitting or standing!) snack on them.

PLAY HARDER
Want to exercise without moving a muscle? Put your feet to work! Kids burn anywhere from 15-35% more calories when they’re standing than when they’re sitting down. Works for adults, too.

LEARN EASIER
Get students standing more and they’ll learn better, too. Active learning increases kids’ involvement in the classroom, boosts creativity, and improves students’ behavior and feelings of well-being. Best of all, kids’ test scores have been shown to go up when they are allowed to stand and move around more while learning.

LIVE HEALTHIER
Want to feel like you’re on top of the world? Stand up more in the course of your day! Total time spent sitting during the day and periods of sitting for more than 30 consecutive minutes increase our risk for myriad life-threatening conditions, including cancer, stroke, heart disease, high blood pressure, back and neck pain and associated posture problems, and high blood sugar, cholesterol, and triglyceride levels. Don’t take this sitting down -- Get up and move!

First things First
Over the last several school years, we’ve been putting in place a number of changes to make our meals even more nutritious for our customers. For instance, we’ve established calorie maximums for our meals, which helps us cut added sugar from our offerings!

DON’T GET!
Take at least one FRUIT or VEGETABLE and at least THREE items total so your meal counts as a complete lunch!