

**Press Release**

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*Fresh Fruit and Vegetables program launches at No. 5 School*

On Thursday, Oct. 2, West New York Public School No. 5 officially launched the start of its Fresh Fruit and Vegetables program, which will run all year long.

Each week on Thursday, the students of No. 5 School will be getting a piece of fruit or vegetable in addition to their lunch program. One to two students will be sent down to the cafeteria - representing their class - to collect the fresh fruit or vegetable of the week. The idea is to promote healthy eating habits and healthy choices.

To start off the program and celebrate the month of October, students will be getting different kinds of apples each week. Last week was Empire Apples and the cafeteria workers dressed the part of farmers for a day. Even West New York's Chef Fred got in the spirit and was Farmer Fred for the day.

Farmer Fred went around speaking to each classroom at P.S. No. 5 about apples and healthy eating habits. Physical Education teacher Brian Cooney has also been putting up information about apples in the gymnasium and is talking to his students during gym class. Other aspects of the program will be included in the curriculum throughout the year.

The \$48,000 grant to fund the program for the 2008-2009 school year was awarded to the school by the State Department of Agriculture in order to provide access to fresh fruit and vegetables to the students in addition to the lunch program. The kids will be introduced to various exotic fruits and vegetables, and offer them different options for healthy eating.

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