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**Richardson ISD EARNS FOODSERVICE DISTRICT OF EXCELLENCE IN CHILD NUTRITION
AWARD
School Nutrition Association Recognizes Outstanding Local School Nutrition Program**

The Child Nutrition Department in Richardson ISD received the District of Excellence in Child Nutrition Award from The School Nutrition Association on April 24, 2007.

This prestigious award recognizes school districts that score 80 percent or higher on SNA's Keys to Excellence, in covering nutrition and nutrition education, administration, communications and marketing, and operations. The Keys to Excellence provides a standard way for school districts to compare their program to the industry's model of practice while helping meet their goals to serve healthy, delicious food in a cost-effective way.

"We're honored to receive this School Nutrition Association designation because it recognizes all the hard work our foodservice operation does to make school meals delicious, attractive, nutritious, and economical."

"Richardson ISD has successfully met the challenges of achieving a quality school nutrition program and we congratulate them on their achievement and commitment to excellence in foodservice management,"

As Keys to Excellence users click-through the Web-based questionnaire, they are offered innovative, practical ideas to help them create kid-friendly, nutritious meals, and run their school foodservice programs effectively. After completing the Keys, directors can compare their foodservice programs to districts nationwide.

Additionally, the Keys to Excellence provide foodservice directors with ideas to help promote excellence in foodservice throughout the school community. Some directors have implemented new and innovative ideas like placing food kiosks around the lunchroom to make a meal different, fun, sociable, and to make the serving of food more efficient. Others have invited the community to special events in the cafeteria. The Keys to Excellence offers guidance on involving the entire school in student nutrition, for example, by using a menu to teach about nutrition.

The new Keys to Excellence was developed and produced by the SNA and the Child Nutrition Foundation, with support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Adolescent and School Health, and the National Dairy Council. To learn more about this cutting edge tool, go to <http://www.schoolnutrition.org/KEYS.aspx?ID=1158>.

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SNA is a national, non-profit professional organization representing more than 55,000 members who provide high-quality, low-cost meals to students across the country. The Association and its members are dedicated to feeding children safe and nutritious meals. Founded in 1946, SNA is the only association

devoted exclusively to protecting and enhancing children's health and well being through school meals and sound nutrition education.

The Child Nutrition Foundation, established in 1964, is a non-profit corporation that provides high-quality professional development, financial aid and research programs to child nutrition professionals and members of the SNA. The Foundation's commitment to the child nutrition community is integral to implementing positive changes in school meals and, ultimately, to the health of school children.

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