



# National School Lunch Fact Sheet

Nationally, 26 million children a day participate in the National School Lunch Program at 100,000 private, parochial, and public schools.



The National School Lunch Program is a federal program in which the Archdiocese participates. NDS has been sponsoring this program for the 5 county community of SE PA for 30 years.

The National School Lunch Program has been around since 1946.

Over 90 schools in the Philadelphia Archdiocese participate the National School Lunch program.

The National School Lunch Program is a



Lunches are designed to be nutritious and at the same time appealing to kids.

Child Nutrition Program that is funded through the US Department of Agriculture and is then channeled to the Archdiocese through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The menu has specific nutrient requirements: it must provide at least one-third of a child's growth nutrients for the day without providing too much fat.

While the government does provide assistance to families by providing free and reduced priced meals, the lunch program is not a welfare program. It is a Child Nutrition Program. The government helps subsidize every meal, even full priced meals, because of its nutritional importance. The school lunch program is our "tax dollars at work."