



# Dallas Center-Grimes

## Food Services Newsletter

February 2026



### Good Vibes and Good Bites

This month, third and fourth graders at Northridge took part in Discovery Kitchen's Smart Snacking lesson, where Chef Jozsef demonstrated how to make flavorful spicy lime tortilla chips. To help students build a more balanced snack, he also showed them just how simple it is to whip up homemade roasted red pepper hummus. Students learned that snacks can still be fun and tasty while fueling their bodies to feel their best. Many were excited to try chickpeas, an ingredient new to some of them, through this delicious hummus recipe. Discovery Kitchen continues to encourage students to explore new foods and make smart choices that support energy and wellbeing throughout the day.

### Breakfast Buzz

Starting your morning with a proper breakfast can set the tone for the entire day, helping students stay energized, focused, and ready to learn. That's why Chartwells is excited to launch a new promotion that encourages fueling up with a bright and tasty breakfast each morning. Committed to making it easier than ever for students to start strong with delicious options that keep them feeling their best. Keep an eye out for new breakfast items rolling out soon, crafted to keep you coming back for more and, more importantly, prepared for a successful day of learning. Each morning is a fresh start, and we're here to help make it a great one!



Matt Pasma  
DIRECTOR OF DINING SERVICES  
515-423-6356  
[Matthew.Pasma@COMPASS-USA.COM](mailto:Matthew.Pasma@COMPASS-USA.COM)

## DISCOVERY KITCHEN FUN

### Smart Snacking

With school, sports, and other extra-curricular activities, we want to ensure students understand how healthy snacks and meals can be important in energizing them all day. Insights show that today's students have non-traditional eating habits, favoring mini meals. This month, students will learn to create Smart Snacks for school and at home.



## Bus Driver Appreciation Day

Bus Driver Appreciation Day gave us the perfect opportunity to celebrate the incredible individuals who keep the schools moving, literally. To help students share their gratitude, Chartwells sent cards to each school so students could write personalized messages for their bus drivers and mechanics. These dedicated team members ensure students arrive safely each day, and the school community simply wouldn't run the same without them. Chartwells is honored to show our appreciation by gifting every driver and mechanic in the district a sweet treat of cookies along with the students' personalized cards. Thank you for all you do for the students, your commitment truly makes a difference every day.



## UP NEXT:

Grab a chocolate chip muffin at the High School or a blueberry muffin at Oak View to celebrate Muffin Day February 20<sup>th</sup>!



You can't celebrate strawberry day without grabbing a strawberry smoothie or parfait February 27<sup>th</sup>



Chef Jozsef is helping bring Mardi Gras to Oak View February 18<sup>th</sup> by teaching students about Gumbo.

