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July 20, 2022

Lake and Peninsula School Board
PO 498
King Salmon, AK 99613

Dear Lake and Peninsula School Board:

I am writing to you today to encourage the Lake and Peninsula School District to make traditional foods in the lunch room. I suggest to change the lunch menu and have one day a week be Traditional Foods Day where the cook for that day could make a traditional dish to include into the school lunch or a whole meal.

In 2018, the federal government passed the 2018 farm bill. In it under title 4 the nutritional programs, section 4203, it authorizes the use of traditional foods in public facilities to include schools. See full text below:

SEC. 4203. SERVICE OF TRADITIONAL FOODS IN PUBLIC FACILITIES. Section 4033(d)(1) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (128 Stat. 818) is amended— (1) by striking “and” the 1st place it appears, (2) by inserting “, a State, a county or county equivalent, a local educational agency, and an entity or person authorized to facilitate the donation, storage, preparation, or serving of traditional food by the operator of a food service program” after “organization”, and (3) by inserting “storage, preparation, or” after “donation to or”.

I envision that it could become like Traditional Foods Thursday so that it can be planned for every week. The menu for that day could look like:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

TRADITIONAL FOODS OR Turkey hot dog Broccoli Tater tots Milk
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I was not aware donations of traditional foods were allowed in our schools. I think this is something that should be celebrated, announced, and encouraged in a letter home to families. If we do not teach children to eat Native foods when they are young, they will most likely not want to try them when they are older because they were not

exposed to them at a young age. I was very fortunate to have Marcie Lester and Father David Askoak babysit my daughter between the ages of two and four. She introduced her to seal oil and dry meat, subuk (sp?), and many other things that I would not have introduced to her pallet.

Thank you for your consideration of this idea. Have a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

Evelynn Trefon