

Roger Johnson
Agriculture Commissioner
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Equal Opportunity in Employment and Services

January 7, 2009

Dear School Lunch Program Administrator:

I am pleased to announce that the 8th Annual Pride of Dakota School Lunch Day in North Dakota will be Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

Last year nearly 90 percent of the schools in the state participated and enjoyed a school lunch meal from North Dakota grown and processed food.

The goal this year is to have all K-12 school children in the state participate. It is a great way to salute the North Dakota food industry and to show our pride in and appreciation for those who produce and process the food we eat. I am inviting child care facilities in the state to participate as well.

I encourage you to visit our Pride of Dakota web site at www.prideofdakota.com to locate products by company, product or city and to view the many products you can purchase from the Pride of Dakota companies in your area.

Please complete and return the enclosed participation form by January 23rd.

Enclosed please find sample menus that were created by the staff at the Department of Public Instruction. However, please feel free to design your own special menu. The Child Nutrition staff at DPI can assist you if you have unique local food products that you want to incorporate into your menu. Their contact information is on the menu sheet.

Please advise all of your school lunch staff of this special day. They can access the menus at www.agdepartment.com. Just click on "POD School Lunch Day-2009".

My staff will communicate with you later concerning other activities relating to this special date, but I wanted you to reserve March 24th on your calendar for *Pride of Dakota School Lunch Day 2009!*

Please accept my thanks for all you do for the youth of North Dakota, and I look forward to receiving the registration form back from you by January 23rd. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Roger Johnson
Agriculture Commissioner

RJ:cf/jb

Enclosures: Registration Form and Sample Menus