



# Marylin Avenue Elementary

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District

## Roadrunner Cafe

### Smarter Lunchrooms Focus

1. Improve Lunchroom Atmosphere
2. Move More White Milk
3. Vary the Vegetables



### Quick Tip

The idea of using a smart TV turned out to be a great one. We were able to engage and educate our customers using videos, text, music and pictures.

—Mojgan Hashemi, R.D.N.,  
Nutrition Education + Operations  
Manager

### Goals:

- Enhance the ambiance in the cafeteria and make it more welcoming
- Increase white milk selection in relation to chocolate milk
- Increase consumption of vegetables in relation to fruits
- Decrease food waste

### Actions:

- Personalized the cafeteria, naming it after the school mascot; added colorful fruit and vegetable posters, decorations and menu signs
- Installed smart TV to showcase menu and play nutrition messages/videos
- Increased the variety of vegetables, fruits and salads; added labels and made offerings easier to eat; provided Harvest of the Month vegetable samplings for all classrooms

### Results:

- Smarter Lunchrooms Movement (SLM) Scorecard increased from 38 to 52 out of 100 points
- Vegetable selection increased by 76 percent, making them 15 percent of total produce
- White milk selection increased by 97 percent, representing 30 percent of all milk selected
- Plate Waste study with [StopWaste.org](http://StopWaste.org) revealed that vegetables were less wasted than fruits
- Smart TV nutrition education study with Dairy Council of California demonstrated knowledge gains
- Teacher and student involvement in nutrition programs improved in the classroom and the cafeteria

### Next Steps:

- Partner with videography teacher to create student-led videos for additional nutrition education
- Expand cafeteria enhancements to other schools



# Marylin Avenue Elementary

## School Site Profile

**School Name:** Marylin Avenue Elementary  
**Grade Levels Served:** TK-5  
**Enrollment:** 372  
**Percent Free and Reduced:** 73  
**Foodservice Director:** Barbara Lee, Director of Campus Catering

## School District Profile

**District Name:** Livermore Valley Joint Unified  
**Grade Levels:** TK12  
**Number of Schools:** 18  
**Enrollment:** 14,052  
**Percent Free and Reduced:** 22



## Kid-Friendly Technology Delivers Nutrition Education Results

How can you make nutrition education memorable? Use a smart TV! When Barbara Lee, Director of Campus Catering at Livermore Valley Joint Unified, looked for ways to educate students in the cafeteria, she believed technology would be a familiar and popular choice.

With support from a California Department of Education Team Nutrition Smarter Lunchrooms of California (TM SLM of CA) Grant and resources provided by Dairy Council of California, Lee and Nutrition Educator Mojgan Hashemi created video clips of nutrition messages. While moving through the line to choose a meal, students viewed menu items and listened to brief nutrition tips on the smart TV. In the end, the digital TV provided dual benefits: promoting the meal offerings and providing nutrition education.

**The results?** Students remembered the information! Surveys taken before and after the cafeteria upgrade showed students were more knowledgeable about the components of a nutritious breakfast and the importance of eating breakfast. Lee states, "Through this project, I've learned nutrition messages that are brief, focused and repetitive can be an effective and powerful way to provide nutrition information to students."

This pilot program provides support for using technology in nutrition education. Valerie Fung-A-Ling, Community Nutrition Adviser, states, "The cafeteria is an excellent venue for nutrition education, and the timing is right to lead schools in implementing this new technology."

## SLM Technical Advising Professional

**Name:** Valerie Fung-A-Ling  
**Agency:** Dairy Council of California

Learn more about SLM trainings resources at

<http://healthyeating.org/Schools/School-Foodservice/Smarter-Lunchrooms-Movement-of-California.aspx>.