

POWER UP YOUR PROGRAM!

Ellensburg School District

Alexandra Epstein-Solfield
Child Nutrition Director

Alexandra came into Power Up Your Program focused on gathering community input and soliciting ideas for new menu items. In the spring, she launched a family survey and received over 41 responses. Results indicated a desire for more authentic Latin American menu items. With Chef Todd, Alexandra developed a child nutrition compliant pozole recipe. The Celebration of Culture Night hosted at Ida Nason Aronica Elementary provided a perfect opportunity for the meal team to get real-time feedback on the new recipe. They handed out over 150 taste test portions of pozole to community members, with garnishes including radishes, cilantro, cabbage, lime, and tortilla chips. The team received positive feedback. With some recipe tweaks, pozole was put on the middle school menu in mid-May. It was a hit!

Project Highlights

- Launched family survey to solicit menu ideas
- Developed new recipe for traditional pozole served with a variety of fresh garnishes
- Hosted a taste testing event at elementary school's Celebration of Culture Night
- Over 150 community members tasted the new pozole recipe and gave a positive review



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