

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Food: Not Just for Thought!

[Royal Oak Charter Township, MI, September 28, 2021] – Friends of Royal Oak Township, Inc. (FOROT), is pleased to announce an initiative, “Food: Not Just for Thought!” Funded by, and in partnership with, the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), the initiative is intended to build advocacy support focused on healthy school meals in the Child Nutrition Reauthorization (CNR) currently making its way through Congress.

On October 13, 2021, FOROT will present a Zoom Information Panel discussion designed for School District Superintendents, in addition to grass top State, County, and Community-based Organization Administrations. On October 20, 2021, a second presentation is scheduled for grassroots Community- based stakeholders inclusive of parents, teachers, and other child health and welfare advocates. Each panel will offer perspectives from national, state, and local food experts and advocates. Both presentations are scheduled on Wednesdays from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Pre-registration is required due to capacity limitations.

According to Brigitte R. Hall, President of FOROT, “three quarters of the children in the school lunch program are from lower-income families.” and more than 30 million children participate in the National School Lunch (NSLP) and School Breakfast Programs (SBP). Improvements to school food are a key strategy to support every child’s health. The COVID-19 pandemic is increasing national attention on the critical role that school meals have in feeding children in the United States.

In concert with CSPI, FOROT is spearheading activities and encouraging participation of districts, schools, parents, and other stakeholders in our South Oakland County service area. These CNR related activities target rulemaking for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to restore and update the science-based nutrition standards for school meals.

So that the very important voices and perspectives of our children are heard, FOROT is also sponsoring an Essay Contest for 7-12 grade students. While 3 winner and 3 runner-up prizes will be awarded, all contest entries will be shared with Congress.

For additional information, please go to www.forot.org and click on the Essay Contest and Panel information on the home page.

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