



Camellia Patey Awarded School Nutrition Services DPG Award of Excellence

Morristown, Tennessee

The School Nutrition Services DPG of the American Dietetic Association 2011 Award of Excellence in practice has been announced. Camellia Patey, MS, RD, SNS, Vice President of School Wellness Partnerships with the National Dairy Council, is the recipient of the award, and will be honored at the annual Food and Nutrition Conference and Exposition in San Diego, California. The award is presented annually to a member of the practice group for outstanding work and leadership in the field of child and school nutrition.

A graduate of Western Kentucky University, Ms. Patey has a Master of Science in Health with a concentration in Nutrition. Prior to her longstanding career with the National Dairy Council, she provided nutrition expertise in the healthcare arena as a clinical dietitian followed by extensive involvement in marketing sound nutrition programs and services to schools and the retail market. In her current position she works to advance the profession of dietetics and school nutrition services, to impact the health of children in the school environment.

A career that spans over thirty years has provided Ms. Patey with opportunities to provide leadership, encourage partnerships, incorporate innovation, and establish creativity in her professional work. Most notably among her contributions to the profession is the leadership she has provided in developing and monitoring marketing education materials used widely by School Nutrition Professionals. The “New Look of Milk” and promoting innovative ways to serve breakfast are two such programs she has initiated to ensure children throughout the nation are receiving nutritious meals. She has served as a liaison between

USDA, School Nutrition Foundation and dairy council field staff resulting in her becoming the recognized leader for developing partnerships with key school and health professional groups.

Ms. Patey has been on the cutting edge of improving the school wellness environment; she played a significant role in the school pilots and development of the Fuel Up to Play 60 program and Action for Healthy Kids. Over 70,000 schools are benefitting from the Fuel Up to Play 60 program. Ms. Patey has been working with the Action for Healthy Kids program since its inception and during the last year has been serving as the relationship manager. When school districts were charged with the responsibility of developing wellness policies, she aligned with the School Nutrition Association to develop regional workshops that provided training, information, and resources necessary to develop, implement and measure a local wellness policy.

In addition to her work with the School Nutrition Services DPG as an Industry Representative, Ms. Patey is a member of the Illinois Dietetic Association and the School Nutrition Association. Prior to her move to Illinois, she was actively involved in the Tennessee Dietetic Association. She served as President as well as numerous other offices for both the Memphis Dietetic Association and Memphis Area Nutrition Council.

A program developer, presenter, and author of nutrition information that benefits school districts across the United States, Ms. Patey has demonstrated excellence in advancing the profession of dietetics. Her work reflects a long standing support of the school nutrition profession, and leadership in advancing the quality and integrity of school nutrition programs.