

Mason Elementary (Lees Summit, MO)

This school looked cluttered and nothing matched. We wanted to create a theme throughout and give it a more restaurant like dining experience for the students. With all the focus on fruits, veggies, whole grains and low-fat dairy products we went with that theme along with promoting physical activity. We purchased pictures, curtains, decals, table centerpieces that our ladies put out daily and did a makeover.

Students, parents and teachers noticed the difference immediately! Our monitors have commented they think the students are more calm and they also noticed them having conversations about the food groups, what they have on their trays and compare them to the pictures we have put up. We had the nutrition council students help choose items they thought the student body would like. Our cafeteria staff was awesome. They were so ready for a change and had so much fun doing it. One staff member even brought in her iron to iron the curtains before they were put up. They were excited about having vases to put on the tables and helped purchase seasonal flowers to they would be changing them and not the same ones all year. A few small changes and updates go a long way. Simple things like the vases in the middle of the tables with flowers make the whole dining area feel different and more welcoming.