



Losing Weight to Buy Lunches

The Dunklin R-5 School District is holding a fundraiser to pay off \$4,800 in school lunch debt from last year and build-up some reserves for the near future. District leaders will go hungry, so Blackcats don't.

Superintendent Stan Stratton and Deputy Superintendent Clint Freeman will be dieting for two months, from September 3rd to November 1st. They are seeking sponsors for every pound lost, or donors can give a flat amount of money. The average price of a student lunch is only \$2.73, so every dollar counts. The challenge concludes on the same day as the Dunklin R-5 Health Fair.

Superintendent Stratton says, "We want all of our students to have the same nutritious lunch and not have to settle for an alternative meal." Dunklin offers free breakfast for all students. Many students qualify for a free or reduced lunch. If a student's lunch account runs out of money, the district doesn't charge them for an alternative meal. Despite these efforts and more, there are gaps that lead to negative balances. Mr. Stratton created this fundraiser as a healthy way to help kids. Some teachers and staff members have already signed pledge sheets in anticipation of the challenge. Others are showing support by sponsoring their own weight loss during September and October.

Generous members of the community have two ways to give donations on the Dunklin R-5 website. If you want to give money for each pound, click on the rotating billboard to pledge an amount for every pound lost by Stan, Clint or both. If you want to give a fixed amount, click on the dollar sign icon at the top. Once it opens, click on the "Blackcats Donation Fund" to make a direct payment.