

## School Lunches Spark Rally, Changes

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School lunches have historically gotten a bad rap. Now the quality of lunches in Rochester city schools is getting some attention.

A video produced by third graders at School 28 says it all:

"Lunch is Gross" is the title of the seven-plus minute documentary. Health advocates say the problem goes far beyond how lunches taste.



"The concerns are that school lunches are too high in fat, they're unappealing, they're unhealthy," said Kathy Lewis.

The city school district will put its food services contract up for bid when the current deal expires, at the end of the school year.

"The menu drives the contract to a large extent," said James Fenton, RCSD director of operations. "So what we put in, in terms of menus, is what the companies respond to in terms of food items."

Fenton says the district has added more fresh fruit to school lunchrooms. He says the district is working with community agencies, groups, and parents to come up with a healthier school lunch menu.

Still, a rally is planned to bring attention to the school lunch issue. It's scheduled before Thursday's school board meeting.

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