



photo by EZ Event Photography

Humble ISD Child Nutrition Department Wins National Award

Humble ISD’s **Child Nutrition Department** was recognized by the School Nutrition Association (SNA) as the 2013 national winner in the Successful Practices poster showcase. One school district from across the nation is recognized annually by SNA at its Annual Nutrition Conference, held this year in Kansas City.

Humble ISD was recognized for its poster presentation “Team Approach to Managing Food Allergies.” School districts submit proposals, and the Successful Practices winner is selected by a team of SNA judges.

Humble ISD’s poster presentation highlighted the importance of including child nutrition professionals along with school nurses, parents, local physicians and others in implementing procedures that help provide safety in the school cafeteria for students with life threatening food allergies. Tracking food allergies at the cafeteria cash register is a key feature which allows Child Nutrition staff to assist students in avoiding foods which may cause a life-threatening allergic reaction. Technology is utilized by providing detailed food allergy information to the community, utilizing the Child Nutrition web page found at <http://www.humbleisd.net/childnutrition>. In addition, software-generated lists identifying foods containing common food allergens are available for review on the website and in the school cafeteria.

Humble ISD’s strategy emphasizes preparedness and planning. Strategies for managing food allergies during special situations were featured in the poster presentation. Special situations include power failures when electronic tracking is not available, student taste tests of new products and summer meal programs to name a few.

Shirley Parker, Assistant Director for Child Nutrition, spearheaded the development of Humble ISD’s procedures and presented the poster at the national conference. Ms. Parker (pictured right) received the certificate of recognition from Beth Rice, Assistant Professor of Nutrition at Kentucky’s Murray State University.

The School Nutrition Association is recognized as the authority on school nutrition and is a national, nonprofit professional organization with 55,000 members.