

Marty's Weekly Challenges/Healthy Celebrations Proclamation

During the 2016 pilot, educators found that explaining *in detail* the ongoing challenge activity was vitally important for teachers and students to successfully complete it, culminating in the MyEnvironments Poster and Healthy Celebrations Proclamation in the last lesson. Offering small incentives (like stickers) to students helped to increase participation. Listed below are the steps that should be taken, if at all possible:

Before the series starts:

1. Familiarize yourself with the weekly challenges and what specifically is being asked of the students each week.
2. Schedule a time to meet with your teacher(s), either as a group or individually, to present the changes in Marty Moose and the new structure with challenges and healthy celebrations. Try to do this 1-2 weeks before teaching begins. Explain that we will be working toward having healthy celebrations throughout the year. When accepted, the Healthy Celebration Proclamation will require the commitment of the classroom teacher. It will be helpful to have a copy of the challenges/challenge posters/proclamation to show the teacher(s) so they have a visual reference. Demonstrate for the teachers how you will present the challenges to the students.

In the classroom:

3. Tell the students that Marty will present them a new challenge each week. It is their choice to accept it. Show the poster to the students and read the challenge listed on it. The educators found that the classroom teachers who passed around the challenge posters for students to sign immediately after the weekly challenge was explained had better student involvement. Next, explain the week's challenge card and how to fill it out. Allow the teacher the option to have students do this on the students' own time or have them do it as a class each week. After the challenge is completed, students will drop the cards in Marty's Mailbox for the nutrition educator to review.
4. Explain that each week, MM will read the completed challenges, and those students who have completed a card with their name on it will receive a small sticker on the back of their workbooks, a roster or other designated paper. At the end of the series, students who earn 4 stickers will also receive a larger sticker to keep, or an incentive of your county's choosing.
5. The weekly challenge cards students placed in Marty's Mailbox will be used in the last lesson to map the MyEnvironments poster. Make sure you keep them with the weekly challenge posters.