

TRANSCRIPT OF THE AUDIO TAPE

1. FROM THE PRINCIPAL TO BART AND THE STUDENT COUNCIL

Bart, I've received some voice mail messages about the new Food Court and I'd like you to share them with the Student Council. They are from people who are concerned about the restaurants you are considering for the Food Court. These are important people in our community so I know you'll pay close attention to them.

2. FROM RITA PRICE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GROVE AREA SCHOOL-TO-WORK PROGRAM

Dr. Campbell, this is Rita Price from the Grove Area School-to-Work Program. I've been thinking about the Board's decision to let the Student Council pick the restaurants for our new Food Court. I think that is a big responsibility for students. That kind of hands-on decision making is what we try to advance in our school-to-work classes. So, I think that's good. But I hope your Student Council knows that our own Wildcat's Den is one of the restaurants proposed for the new site. Wildcat's Den, if it gets into the Food Court, will be owned and operated by our students here at Oak Grove High School. The restaurant will be operated through our school-to-work restaurant class. Kids who take the restaurant class will get hands-on experience running Wildcat's Den. They'll learn how to prepare food, order inventory, set prices and serve the public. Currently, 25% of all Oak Grove students are involved in our career classes, so this opportunity would help many of them. Many of these kids can move into jobs in hotels and restaurants once they have experience, and the Wildcat's Den will give them excellent work-related experience. Please remind the Student Council for me that the Wildcat's Den will be a student operated restaurant, for the students and by the students.

3. FROM EDITH CASH, PTA PRESIDENT

At our last PTA meeting you mentioned that the Student Council was picking the restaurants for the new Food Court. Wow! I just looked at the list of choices. The quality of food served by some of these bidders is just awful. Meat-filled tacos? Fast food hamburgers? Spaghetti with meat sauce? Where are the fresh ingredients? I really don't think these are healthy foods for growing young people. We're parents and we're worried about the health of our children. And quite frankly, many of the PTA members question the ability of teenagers to make wise decisions about what to eat for lunch. We talked about this at length at the recent PTA meeting and we think that limiting the options students have to only healthy food would encourage our kids to eat well when we are not there to influence their choices. Please let the Student Council know that the PTA parents don't want to see any fast food or franchised restaurants in our student Food Court.

4. *FROM THE GALLOPING GOURMETS CLUB*

Mr. Campbell, the Galloping Gourmets Club just wanted you to know that we were extremely happy to see that two outstanding restaurants (Fleur de Lys and the Roastery) were on the list of bidders for Food Court. We take eating seriously at the Gourmets Club and we are tired of cardboard hamburgers and fat-filled tacos. Just because we're teenagers doesn't mean we want tasteless garbage as the mainstay of our diet. If money is an issue for bringing in decent restaurants, no problem. Our parents will gladly give us more allowance so we can eat appetizing food. And please remind the Student Council that our parents are very active members of the Booster Club. They do a lot for this school. Students who play in the band, take drama, and receive college financial aid - should know that funds are provided by the Boosters. As a matter of fact, because of the good will and hard work of our parents, the Student Council members will be attending the national leadership conference - a trip sponsored by the Booster Club. Please remind the Student Council to keep the Galloping Gourmets Club's gastronomical interests in mind when making their selections.

5. *FROM VITAL VEGETARIANS*

Hi Dr. Campbell. I am calling in regards to the new restaurants that will be going into the school's Food Court. Vital Vegetarians are members of this student body and we are committed to preserving the planet and avoiding needless animal sacrifice. I don't want to preach to you, but if you have ever befriended a helpless animal and then watched it be slaughtered, you will know where we are coming from. We want to see a Food Court that respects animals, one with vegetarian meals that emphasize grains and legumes. These foods are nutritious and they reduce the chance for animal extinction. The Food Court needs a vegetarian alternative. Vegetarian students are entitled, just like any other student, to a place on campus where they can eat lunch. We want to encourage the Student Council to include Veggie Vittles as a restaurant in the new Food Court.

As you may know, both Taco Villa and Hunan Wok are being boycotted by people concerned about the environment. These restaurants are responsible for the destruction of the rain forest. They are cutting down the rain forest at an alarming rate in order to graze cattle and they are using the trees they cut to produce their throw-away food containers. As Oak Grove High School students and members of the Vital Vegetarians, we are concerned about having such environmentally irresponsible restaurants in our Food Court. Please pass our concerns on to the Student Council.

6. FROM MS. LOER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Dr. Campbell this is Ms. Loer from the counseling office. It has been brought to my attention by a number of parents and community folks, who want to remain nameless at this time, that prices of food sold in our new Food Court may be out of reach for many of our students. Twenty five percent of our students are considered low income. These students aren't likely to bring up the fact that they can't afford the food but it is true. It's going to cause some of these kids to go hungry since they are not allowed to go off campus during school hours. Students shouldn't be forced to go hungry and certainly students shouldn't be singled out and stigmatized because they can't afford our food. I think that would be an unacceptable situation. I hope that our Student Council understands that the Home Economics Kitchen is the only place these kids can afford to eat. Student Council representatives took an oath to serve all students and they have a responsibility to consider the needs of lower income kids.

7. FROM THE PRINCIPAL REGARDING MS. STRAVINSKY

This message is for Bart and the Student Council members from Dr. Campbell. As you know the Borsch Palace, one of the restaurants bidding for space in our new Food Court, is owned by Tanya Stravinsky. Ms. Stravinsky donated the money used by the School District to build our new Student Center. Those wonderful facilities - the game room, study hall, Food Court, the computer lab, and the theater - would not be yours to enjoy had it not been for Ms. Stravinsky. Now, in the last conversation I had with her, she said that she would love to stay in contact with this school by cooking food from her native land. Money is not the issue. She doesn't care if the restaurant makes money. She would just like to be a part of the project she helped build. We are hoping Ms. Stravinsky will contribute heavily to the construction of the swimming pool and tennis courts that we have planned for the Student Center. So, I'm asking you to keep that in mind when you are making your decisions.