Press Release

[School District] is Serving Up New Vegetarian Menu This [Spring, Fall, etc.]: Local Portabella Burgers!

How do you build a better, more nutritious burger? With Mother Nature's original veggie burger - portabella mushrooms!

[Insert School District Name] is excited to announce the launch of the Portable Portabella Burger promotion, which offers nutritious, delicious, vegetarian portabella burgers, sandwiches, and pizzas for students to enjoy during the school day.

The program supports [Insert School District Name]'s commitment to purchase fresh ingredients from local farms, offer a variety of vegetarian menu options, and create a more sustainable meal program. The program kicks off on [insert implementation date] at the following schools: [insert school names].

Students will have the opportunity to try [insert selected Portable Portabella Burger names]. [Insert school district food service director name] collaborated with Mushrooms in Schools to bring the Portable Portabella Burger promotion to [city name] because [insert personal quote].

Portabella mushrooms can be found at our local grocery stores in the produce section, and are packed full of important nutrients and vitamins. Did you know that one portabella mushroom is a <u>great source of potassium and vitamin B3</u>? Mushrooms are low in calories, sodium, fat, and cholesterol, and are gluten free. Mushrooms are the leading source of the antioxidant nutrient selenium in the produce aisle. Antioxidants, like selenium, protect body cells from damage that might lead to chronic diseases, and help to strengthen the immune system, too.

Perfect for grilling and roasting, portabella mushrooms are a tasty ingredient to add to your meals. If you need recipes for your next family dinner, check out the <u>Mushroom</u> <u>Council's website</u>.

Mushrooms are grown year-around and in every state. For the Portable Portabella Burger promotion, [insert school district name] is working with [farm/co-op name] to supply the school district's portabella mushrooms. [insert statement from local farmer about the program]

[Insert School District Name] invites members of the press to join us for lunch and try one of the tasty burgers on the menu. To coordinate a visit, please contact [insert name and email address].

Mushrooms in Schools works with school districts across the country to educate families and school nutrition professionals on affordability, sustainability, and nutrition factors that mushrooms bring to a meal. For more information, visit: <u>https://www.mushroomcouncil.org/school-nutrition</u>/. For questions, contact Malissa Marsden at SchoolMeals@mushroomcouncil.org.