

CONGRESSMAN BOUCHER ANNOUNCES \$15,000 FOR INDEPENDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Federal Grant Will Be Used to Purchase New Kitchen Equipment

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□□□□□□□□□□(Washington, D.C.) – U.S. Representative Rick Boucher announced today that, at his urging, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, through its Rural Development Agency, is providing a federal grant in the amount of \$15,000 to Grayson County for the purchase of new kitchen equipment for Independence Elementary School.

“The federal funds which I am announcing today will enable new refrigerators and food storage units to be purchased for Independence Elementary School, which will improve the school’s energy efficiency, provide more food storage space so that the school can provide more healthy food options for students and enable the school to expand seating in the cafeteria,” Boucher said.

The cafeteria at Independence Elementary School was originally built as a satellite kitchen and later converted to a full kitchen. Currently, the school has numerous small freezers, which line the walls of the section in which students eat. The equipment is 30 years old and in need of replacement or repair.

With the benefit of the federal funds, the school will install new energy efficient equipment that will provide additional food storage space. The school will be able continue to provide a broad array of healthy food options for students, and cafeteria space will be available for student seating or nutritional displays.

□ **“Ensuring our schools have the most up-to-date equipment possible is one of my highest priorities. Today’s announcement will make a major improvement at Independence Elementary School that will enable the school to better meet the needs of its students,”** Boucher said.

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