



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Marine Corps Marathon and Sodexo Boost Healthy School Program

Additional Schools to be Celebrated for Student Commitment to Fitness

QUANTICO, VA (March 26, 2010) – The Marine Corps Marathon (MCM) and sponsor, Sodexo, announced an expansion of the hugely successful Healthy School program during the presentation of the 2009 Healthy School Award at Lynbrook Elementary School in Springfield, VA. The program’s goal is to inspire students to make healthy, active lifestyle choices and to generate participation in the annual Healthy Kids Fun Run, held each October during MCM Weekend.

The Healthy School Award has been presented annually to the top three schools boasting the largest number of student participants in the Healthy Kids Fun Run.

“Sodexo has committed to make the program even bigger, increasing to five schools that will receive award and \$1,000 prize,” says David Bennett, Senior Vice President of Defense Services East, Sodexo Government Services. “The award is in line with Sodexo’s longstanding commitment to the Marine Corps Marathon and the company’s commitment to ensuring the health of America’s youth.”

This year, Sodexo joined MCM partners, the National Children’s Museum and FAMILY Magazine, of Reston, VA, at presentations for the schools that received the 2009 Healthy School Award including Lynbrook and Eagle View Elementary of Fairfax, VA, and George Mason Elementary of Alexandria, VA.

“The Healthy School program was supported by over 350 schools that promoted physical activity and inspired teachers, parents and students to be aware of their overall health,” says Rick Nealis, MCM Director. “The MCM wants to see the next generation of marathon runners be active, participate in the Kids Run and live a healthy lifestyle.”

In 2009, nearly 3,000 elementary and middle school students ages six to 13 participated in the Healthy Kids Fun Run from 353 different schools across the country. Online registration for the 2010 race that will be held on October 30 in Arlington, VA, begins May 5 at www.marinemarathon.com.

For media information regarding the Healthy Kids Fun Run, or other Marine Corps Marathon events, contact Tami Faram, Marine Corps Marathon Public Relations Coordinator at 703-432-1840 or tami.faram@usmc.mil.

Voted the best marathon for families, the Marine Corps Marathon honors the dedication, sportsmanship and patriotism of its participants. Runners from all walks of life participate in the largest marathon not to offer prize money, earning the nickname as “The People’s Marathon.” The MCM is the fourth largest marathon in the United States and the eighth largest in the world. The 35th anniversary Marine Corps Marathon will be held on October 31, in Arlington, VA. No federal or Marine Corps endorsement is implied.

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