PISCATAWAY, NJ – Whoever said that food and politics don’t mix has never met author, scholar and food activist Marion Nestle. Renowned for addressing such controversial issues as government regulation, oversight and inspection, public policy and honesty in advertising, Marion will be the guest speaker at an upcoming lecture, “Personal vs. Social Responsibility for Food Choice and Justice” at Piscataway High School on Thursday, September 30th at 7:00 pm. The program is part of the Peggy Friedman Memorial Lecture Series on Social Justice.

Marion will discuss balancing personal, corporate and government accountability with making healthy choices for your family. In her writings, she raises the question of personal responsibility for food choices in the context of being informed consumers. Food choice doesn’t just mean deciding between eating a nice, juicy steak or pasta al dente. Smart shoppers make decisions based on manufacturer, food content and million dollar advertisements. Marion will also discuss how the political clout of large food processing corporations has an impact on savvy consumers with a need and responsibility to be informed about food quality, as well as the relationship between food and health.

Marion Nestle is the Paulette Goddard Professor in the Department of Nutrition, Food Studies and Public Health at New York University. Her research examines scientific, economic, and social influences on food choice. She is the author of three prize-winning books: “Food Politics: How the Food Industry Influences Nutrition and Health”, “Safe Food: The Politics of Food Safety” and “What to Eat”.

The Peggy Friedman Memorial Lecture Series on Social Justice was established in 2007 by Allen and Sarah Howard, Peggy’s husband and daughter. The series seeks to generate thinking, dialogue, and action in order to perpetuate the legacy of Peggy Friedman as a tireless advocate of public education and social justice.

Marion Nestle’s lecture is free and open to the public. For additional information, please call the Office of Community Education at 732-572-4489.

NOTE TO PRESS: Your coverage of this event is welcome. Please contact Lori Handaly-Kaye, Program Coordinator/Public Information Officer at 732-572-2289, ext. 2520.
About Piscataway Township Schools
Serving over 7,000 students, Piscataway Township Schools provide K through 12 and preschool programming, special education instructional programs and services, as well as before and aftercare, adult education classes, youth enrichment programs, and summer youth programs. The mission of the Piscataway Public Schools is the continual development of each child’s intellectual, aesthetic, social and physical abilities in a positive environment that fosters self-esteem, to help each student realize their abilities and gifts. To this end the Board of Education adopted three strategic goals - by 2011: all graduates of Piscataway High School will be able to attend college and take all courses for credit; non-instructional support services will be delivered on time, on budget, and with a 95 percent customer approval rating; and Piscataway will be a community united for the purpose of providing every child with an education that prepares him or her to succeed in a global society. For more information visit or call 732-572-2289.