



Child Nutrition & Wellness

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March Update

Distributed to the School Nutrition Program Authorized Representatives Listserv
and the Food Service Directors Listserv
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Child Nutrition Reauthorization 2010

The Child Nutrition Reauthorization Overview for State Agencies was held on March 5th in Washington DC. It provided an update regarding implementation of The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 – Public Law 111-296, including the realities and implications of the new law and the new meal pattern requirements. Information learned is included in this update.

Privacy Protection and the Use of Social Security Numbers in Child Nutrition Programs

Public Law 111-296 removes the requirement that the adult household member who signs a household application for free and reduced-price meals also must provide his or her complete Social Security Number (SSN) as a condition of eligibility. Now, only the last four digits of the signing adult's SSN must be provided on the application. The requirement that the SSN of each household member be collected to verify applications has also been removed. This should be implemented as soon as possible for any new applications. All household applications and supporting materials must be updated to reflect these changes by July 1, 2011.

Equity in School Lunch Pricing

To ensure that sufficient funds are provided to the food service account for paid lunches, School Food Authorities (SFAs) must compare the average price for paid lunches to the difference between the per meal Federal reimbursement for free and paid lunches. For school year 2011-2012, if the SFAs average price of paid lunches is \$2.46 or more, it is in compliance. If a SFA's average price for lunches is less than the difference between reimbursements, it must increase the price charged to children a maximum of 10 cents, or add non-Federal funds to the food service account. A la carte may not be used to offset low meal prices. Also, beginning school year 2011-2012, SFAs must report their paid lunch prices to FNS through their state agency. For additional information, the *Equity in School Lunch Pricing Fact Sheet* is available at www.kn-eat.org, What's New. An interim rule will be published by July 1, 2011.

Food Safety Inspections

Child Nutrition Reauthorization of 2010 continues to require that all schools must have two food safety inspections each year. If your school has not received two (2) inspections by April 1, 2011, you must send a letter to the Kansas State Department of Agriculture requesting the needed inspection(s). A sample letter is available at www.kn-eat.org, Food Safety.

Proposed Rule to Update School Lunches and Breakfasts

USDA has issued a proposed rule to align school meals with the *2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, as recommended by the Institute of Medicine (IOM). **You are encouraged to submit comments about the proposed rule by April 13, 2011 at www.regulations.gov.** The proposed rule is available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New and will be reviewed and discussed at Leadership Connections meetings this spring.

Foster Children Eligibility

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Public Law 111-296 provides categorical eligibility for free meals to foster children. Foster children may now be certified without an application if the sponsor obtains documentation from an appropriate State or local agency indicating the status of the child as a foster child whose care and placement is the responsibility of the State or that the foster child has been placed with a caretaker household by a court.

Households with foster and non-foster children may choose to include the foster child as a household member, as well as any personal income earned by the foster child, on the same household application that includes their non-foster children. This will streamline the application process and may help the foster family's non-foster children qualify for free or reduced price meals based on household size and income.

This change should be implemented as soon as possible for any new foster children identified by foster agencies or who submit applications for the remainder of this school year. All household applications and supporting materials will be updated to reflect these changes for school year 2011-2012. KSDE is working with State and local foster agencies to establish a way to receive information directly from these agencies to facilitate certification for free meals for foster children prior to the 2011-2012 school year.

School Breakfast Waivers

Eating breakfast is one of the best ways to assure that students are healthy and able to achieve their full potential. All Kansas public schools are required by State law to participate in the School Breakfast Program unless they meet the following criteria and receive an annual waiver from the Kansas State Department of Education.

Fewer than 35% of students in attendance at the school building during March of the current academic year are eligible for free or reduced price meals **AND**

1. The school building does offer the School Breakfast Program and meets the following criteria:

- Breakfast is available, but student participation is low.
- The school principal must attest that breakfast is available to all students in the building.
- The school principal must attest that parents and students receive regular reminders of the availability of breakfast at school.
- The school principal must attest that bus and class schedules allow students a minimum of 15 minutes to eat breakfast at school.
- The school breakfast average daily participation in March of the current school year must be less than 25% of the number of students eligible for reduced price and free meals.

OR

2. The school building does not offer the School Breakfast Program and meets the following criteria:

- There is documented evidence that there is no need for the School Breakfast Program.
- The school must specify the policy and procedures that allow morning nutrition to be provided in that building to any student who needs it.

Waiver Request forms for the 2011-2012 school year are available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Administration, School Breakfast Waivers. **Waivers are due April 15, 2011.** If you have questions about the waiver process, please contact our office at 785-296-2276 or your area's KSDE child nutrition consultant.

Scheduling Body Venture for 2011-12

Body Venture is KSDE's traveling health education exhibit for students in grades K-5. Each year this exciting exhibit visits approximately 100 schools and helps students learn why it is so important to "Eat Smart. Play Hard." To learn more about the exhibit and to request a visit, go to www.bodyventure.org, Schedule. Requests for 2011-2012 visits must be received by April 30, 2011.

Summertime Success

If you aren't already serving nutritious meals during the summer, now is the time to consider that possibility. Schools know the impact a good breakfast and lunch have on children's behavior and learning. Schools are our best vehicle to serve summer meals because their location is well known, their service is enjoyed and they can be a beneficial community gathering place.

Hunger doesn't take a vacation. The Summer Food Service program (SFSP) was created to ensure that during long school vacations, children would continue to receive the nutritious meals they receive during the school year. Approximately 330,000 lunches are served to children each day in Kansas during the school year. Only 18,000 children statewide receive the free meals each day provided by SFSP sponsors during the summer months so more sponsors are needed. Providing healthful meals can help maintain students' learning readiness, provide a safe place for children to interact with other kids and supportive adults, allow families to stretch their food dollars, employ staff in the summer, maximize use of otherwise idle buildings, bring money to the community, and build community partnerships.

Summer Food Service Programs are gearing up. Consider one of these options for extending meals to your children this summer:

- The **Simplified Summer Option** provides for seamless operation of the School Nutrition Programs at sites with 50% or more of students eligible for reduced price or free school meals. All students will be served free of charge and meals will be reimbursed at the NSLP free rates for breakfast and/or lunch.
- The **Summer Food Service Program** (SFSP) operates under different, although very similar, rules. Reimbursement rates are higher which helps to compensate for making a few operational changes. All meals are served free of charge to eligible children at participating sites.

The 2011 Summer Reimbursement Rates are now available at www.kn-eat.org, Summer Food Service Program. If you have questions about the SFSP or the Simplified Summer Option, please contact our office or your area consultant.

Spring Leadership Connections Meetings

"All Aboard" for Spring Leadership Connections meetings! We will discuss Child Nutrition Reauthorization and the proposed nutrition standards for school nutrition programs. Beautiful new posters that will brighten up your cafeteria and encourage physical activity will be distributed. KSDE Professional Development award recipients will be recognized. We will also honor retirements that we are aware of. As always, there will be great opportunities for professional networking. Meeting dates and locations are posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New. Plan now to attend!

Child Nutrition Management Academy & Regional Training Cooperative Classes

This June, we will offer both Child Nutrition Management Academy and Regional Training Cooperative (RTC) classes at six locations. This means that relevant training for **all** food service employees will be available at a convenient regional location. We hope this approach will make it practical for employees to share transportation and reduce the costs of attending training. Dates and locations are as follows:

- June 7-10 at Topeka, Iola, and Hays
- June 14-17 at Dodge City, Haysville, and Kansas City

The following classes will be offered:

- Personnel Management II
- Working SAFE
- KN-TECH
- Nutrition Education in the Primary Classroom
- Al a Carte...Mission Possible
- The Path to Personal Wellness
- Flexing Your Marketing Muscle
- Effective Financial Management
- Implementing HACCP in Kansas
- Food Service Sanitation
- SNA Healthy EDGE
- Food Based Menu Planning and Production Records

Each of the above classes provides six to 12 hours of training. In addition, there will be a selection of RTC classes offered at each location. The full class schedule and registration will be available around the first of April at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, 5-Star Training System.

SNA-KS Professional Development Workshop

The School Nutrition Association of Kansas invites you to come to Atwood for fun and professional learning April 9-10. The theme for this year's workshop is "Life's A Garden, Dig It." For more information and registration forms, go to www.sna-ks.org.

Kansas Nutrition Council Annual Conference

"Access to Nutrition in 2011" is the theme for this year's Kansas Nutrition Council's 2011 Annual Conference. The event will be held on Thursday, April 14 at Eberley Farms in Wichita. The conference brochure and registration information are available at www.sne.org/KansasNutritionCouncil.htm.

ESPH Video News

A new edition of the ESPH (Eat Smart Play Hard) Video News will be released March 15th at www.eatsmartplayhard.org. This site provides important information for families about healthy living and shows how Kansas schools are teaching their students to "eat smart" and "play hard". It is designed to share positive information with the public about school food service, physical education and healthy schools. USD 512 Shawnee Mission is featured in the March edition.

Summer Food Service Program Outreach Tools Available

KSDE has several tools to offer to encourage participation in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Go to www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New to order yard signs, nutrition coloring books, crayons, and foodscape static clings that will be delivered to you at SFSP training in April. **Order forms must be completed and returned to KSDE by March 11, 2011.**

HealthierUS School Challenge

The HealthierUS Schools Challenge is USDA's "Blue Ribbon" program for school nutrition and fitness, as well as a key strategy for ensuring students have access to healthier food in school and are engaged in regular physical activity. The primary task of the school nutrition program in the HUSSC is ensuring that school menus are as nutritious as possible, incorporating more fruits, vegetables and whole grains.

We encourage all Kansas schools to take the HealthierUS School Challenge! Contact Kelly Chanay at kchanay@ksde.org for information and/or assistance applying. The First Lady, Michelle Obama, has announced that a special reception will be held at the White House with representatives from each of the award winning schools.

Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program

Funds are available for approximately 100 elementary schools to participate in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during school year 2011-2012. Over 100 schools are currently receiving additional funds to offer free fresh fruits and vegetables to students in one or more areas at times other than meal service periods. Up to \$75 total per student is available for the period July 2011 through June 2012.

Participation in the FFVP is limited to elementary schools with priority given to those with 50 percent or more of students eligible for reduced price or free school meals. Priority will also be given to schools that establish partnerships with non-federally funded organizations to provide additional resources to implement the program.

All related documents are posted on www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Food Service Facts, Chapter 32. These materials include the FFVP:

- Program Handbook
- School Application
- School Selection Criteria
- Program Agreement Addendum
- Reimbursement Claim

To apply for the FFVP, complete the application and return it to KSDE no later than **May 6, 2011**. Schools selected to participate will be notified by June 1, 2011. Participating schools will be reimbursed for their documented expenses on a monthly basis. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 785-296-2276 or your area KSDE child nutrition consultant.

Wellness Policy Data Now Available to the Public

Wellness policy data for the 2010 program year has been made available to the public. To view the current data for Kansas schools and the statewide average scores for each content area of the Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines, go to www.kn-eat.org, School Wellness Policies. Click on the blue diamond next to "View Kansas Schools' Wellness Policy Data".

Recipes for Healthy Kids

Recipes chosen to advance in First Lady Michelle Obama's Recipes for Healthy Kids competition have been announced and you are encouraged to vote for your favorite recipe until May 15, 2011. Recipes for Healthy Kids competition began last September and challenged teams of school nutrition professionals, chefs, students, and community members to develop nutritious, and kid-approved recipes that schools can easily incorporate into National School Lunch Programs. For more on the Challenge and to vote, please visit: www.recipesforkidschallenge.com.

Special recognition for submitting recipes that are now featured on the Recipes for Kids Challenge website goes to St. Dominic's (Garden City), Logan Elementary (Seaman), Blue Valley District (Kansas City), St. Peter's Catholic (Schulte), and Paola High (Paola). Even though they were not selected as finalists; they are winners in the eyes of the Child Nutrition & Wellness team!

Staffing Update

I am pleased to announce the addition of Emily Nelson, RD to the Child Nutrition & Wellness Team. She will be helping with the Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program, Healthier US School Challenge, SMI Analysis and Team Nutrition. Franny Eastwood who has been working part-time with Team Nutrition, SMI Analysis and HUSSC is now working as a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Consultant – a change in job responsibilities. Kelly Horn has also joined our team as a CACFP Consultant. Kelly was the Food Service Director for Pittsburg Schools for 10 years. Welcome Emily, Franny and Kelly!