



Child Nutrition & Wellness

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May Update

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

May 4, 2011

Nine HealthierUS School Challenge GOLD Awards to USD 480 Liberal!

What a phenomenal achievement! Congratulations to Connie Vogts, Food Service Director, and the administration, teachers and staff at Liberal! The following schools received the HealthierUS School challenge Gold Award:

- Garfield Elementary
- Lincoln Elementary
- MacArthur Elementary
- McDermott Elementary
- McKinley Elementary
- Southlawn Elementary
- Washington Elementary
- Cottonwood Intermediate School
- Sunflower Intermediate School

HealthierUS School Challenge Silver Award to St. Anne in Wichita

Congratulations to the St. Anne staff and first year Food Service Manager Janet Marshall!

HealthierUS School Challenge Bronze Award to Copeland Elementary in Copeland

Congratulations to the Copeland Elementary staff and Food Service Director Becky Axtell!

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.

Program Renewal

All program renewal documents will be available May 5th at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Administration, Program Renewal. A new Program Agreement must be signed for SY2011-12 due to significant changes in policy brought about by The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act. Sponsor and Site Applications in KN-CLAIM are now available for 2012. The Spanish translations for the letter, instructions and application for reduced price/free school meals are not yet available. These documents are expected to be ready to post on the website by the beginning of June.

Administrative Workshops and Food-Based Menu Planning and Production Record Classes

Important updated information about the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act will be presented at Administrative Workshops this summer. Plan now to attend this required training! Go to www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, 5-Star Training System to register for back-to-school **Administrative Workshops** and the **SMI Food Based Menu Planning and Production Records** classes after May 16th.

Food Safety Inspections

If your school has not received two (2) food safety inspections, you must send a letter to the Kansas State Department of Agriculture (KDA) requesting the needed inspection(s). A sample letter is available at www.kn-eat.org, Food Safety. Be sure to save a copy of the letter sent to the KDA as documentation of compliance with the requirement.

Kansas Students Select Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program as Topic for Competition

A group of 6th grade students from Sterling Elementary School was a second place winner for Kansas in the eCBYERMISSION competition! Each of the team members will be receiving a \$500 savings bond and a “Science Kit” which will encourage more exploration of the sciences, engineering, mathematics, and technology!

Their project was “**Do more students eat fruits and veggies after they have eaten them in the classroom?**” The students surveyed 53 fellow students and found that: 64% eat more fresh fruits and veggies because they have tasted them at school and 75% are willing to try new foods at home because they tried them at school. Mrs. Sandy Skucius, USD 376 Food Service Director; Rice Community Healthcare Foundation with assistance from Ellen Garden and Susan Sankey; and Clelia McCrory, USD 376 Grants/CTE Coordinator, help to keep the successful USDA Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Grant project offered through the Kansas State Department of Education in place for the district’s K-6 students. Congratulations to Sterling Elementary!

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. Dates and locations are as follows:

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

See the full class schedule and register at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, 5-Star Training System by May 27th to be entered in special drawings for equipment and resources for your school food service operation.

Regional Training Cooperative Classes

Check www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, 5-Star Training System for continually updated information about a wide variety of training opportunities conveniently located all over the state!

ESPH Video News

A final edition of the ESPH (Eat Smart Play Hard) Video News for the 2010-2011 school year is now available at www.eatsmartplayhard.org. USD 305 Salina and USD 307 Ell Saline are featured in the May edition. The second season of the ESPH Video News will debut September 2011. Stay tuned for new editions that show how Kansas schools are teaching students to “Eat Smart” and “Play Hard”!

Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program

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 Emily Nelson at 785-296-2276 or your area KSDE child nutrition consultant.

Time to Update School Wellness Implementation Plans

As the school year begins to wind down, it is a great time for the School Wellness Policy Committee/School Health Council to meet and evaluate the current Wellness Policy Implementation Plans for your sponsor. Be sure to update the 2011 Wellness Policy Builder in preparation for 2012 Program Renewal. Sponsors should be making continual progress towards creating healthier school environments by setting incremental objectives that are realistic and reachable.

Team Nutrition

Sign up to be a Team Nutrition School at www.kn-eat.org, Team Nutrition for implementation of health education programs during school year 2011-2012 including:

- Power Panther Pals (Primary program for K-2 and Intermediate for grades 3-6)
- Power Up (Junior High)
- Power Panther Professionals (staff wellness program)
- Family Fun, Food & Fitness Events.

Please share this information with teachers or others who may be interested!

Monthly Financial Management Reports

In order to complete the Annual Financial Report in KN-CLAIM by August 15th, you MUST complete the on-line Monthly Financial Management Reports for 2010-2011. Now is the time to get up-to-date by entering monthly data beginning with July 1, 2010!

For SY 2011-2012, the Monthly Financial Reports must be completed within 90 days following the last day of the claim month or reimbursement will be withheld until completed. The Monthly Financial Reports will automatically roll-up to create the Annual Financial Report!

Leadership Forum 2011-Save the Date

The annual Leadership Forum for School Food Service Directors will be held October 7th in Salina at the Webster Conference Center. Save the date and watch for future details. This year's special topic will be Financial Management.

Food Service Facts

Please access www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Food Service Facts for the most current information. Food Service Facts is being updated as reauthorization is implemented.

Jump Start for Managers

Jump Start for Managers will be held in Maize on August 9 & 10, 2011. Register at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, 5-Star Training.

Farm to School

Visiting local farmers' markets is a great way for school districts to find farmers in their area. To view the National Farmers Market Directory online go to <http://apps.ams.usda.gov/farmersmarkets/>.

Eligibility of Children Evacuated from Japan and Bahrain

USDA recognizes that many families are being evacuated from Japan due to the recent disasters. Some families are moving to safer areas, including the United States. These students are eligible for meal benefits if they enroll in a participating school or institution. For guidance on providing free or reduced price benefits to these students and, if applicable, their host families contact KSDE at 785-296-2276.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Grant Opportunity-Apply Now!

Midwest Dairy Council will be offering the opportunity for 6 School Sponsors to receive \$1500 grants to promote the SFSP at their Area-eligible Open Site(s). Applications for the Midwest Dairy Council Summer Food Service 2011 Grant Program were posted on the website April 1 and are due on May 6, 2011. Applicants are required to be enrolled in the free Fuel Up to Play 60 program. To learn more about Fuel Up to Play 60 and sign up for the free program, visit www.FuelUpToPlay60.com.

Child Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week is May 2-6

School nutrition employees must balance many roles and follow numerous federal, state and local regulations to ensure safe and healthy meals are available in schools. They are trained sanitation and food safety experts and must manage financially self-sufficient programs despite limited funds to prepare and serve each meal. School nutrition professionals also provide nutrition education to students, as well as healthy catering services to their communities. They use their creativity to make the cafeteria a fun and welcoming place all year long and perform their jobs each day because they care passionately about the children they serve. The Child Nutrition & Wellness team expresses its deep appreciation to Kansas school nutrition employees and commends your good work on behalf of children.

Cheryl