KN-CLAIM Upgrade – SNP Claims are Now Available!
The upgraded KN-CLAIM system was released on August 10. To access KN-CLAIM, a new registration process (referred to as Common Authentication) is required. A Quick Reference Guide for Accessing KN-CLAIM is available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Program, What’s New. On-line tutorials are available to assist in learning how to navigate the new KN-CLAIM at https://learning.ksde.org/login/index.php. SNP Claiming System has been tested and is now ready for claims to be entered.

Third Wednesday Webinar – September 20
Join us on September 20 at 2:00 pm to learn about Menus and Production Records. Join the webinar at https://ksde.zoom.us/j/134705959. Audio for the webinar can be heard either through your computer speakers (if your computer has a microphone) or by calling 1-866-620-7326 and entering the conference code 7852962276# when prompted.

Sponsors Contracting with a Food Service Management Company
All sponsors contracting with a Food Service Management Company are strongly encouraged to participate in the 2017 FSMC Fall Update on September 14, 2017 at 1:00. Join the webinar at https://ksde.zoom.us/j/404694417. The webinar will provide updates for the 2017-18 school year as well as review sponsor responsibilities for monitoring FSMC contracts.

Verification Training
Plan now to attend Verification training in September! This face-to-face 2-hour training will be available regionally. The schedule is posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training. Online verification training will be available the last week in September after the conclusion of the face-to-face trainings and details will be provided in the September Update.

Reimbursement Rates
Reimbursement Rates for FY 2018 are posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Key Links.

Fiscal Year 2017 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grants
Kansas has received an allocation of $217,577 to competitively award equipment assistance grants to eligible Sponsors participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Priority must be given to high need schools where 50% or more of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced price meals and to those schools that did not receive a previous NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant. These funds will allow Sponsors who apply and are awarded equipment assistance grants to purchase equipment to improve nutritional quality of school meals, safety of food served, overall energy efficiency, ability to use locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables or implement Smarter Lunchroom techniques. The Kansas grant application is available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What’s New. Applications are due November 15, 2017.
Single Audit Compliance Supplement

At-Risk Afterschool Meals
Help students make the grade this school year by serving At-Risk Afterschool Meals to school aged children in lower income areas. Ensuring children have access to nutritious meal and snacks when school is not in session is more important than ever for students to achieve, both in and outside of the classroom. Qualified sites providing educational or enrichment activities after the end of the school day, on weekends or on holidays during the school year can receive reimbursement at the free rate for all meals/snacks that are served. Interested in learning more? Contact Mark Thompson at mathompson@ksde.org, Laura Hodgson at lhodgson@ksde.org, or call 785-296-2276.

New USDA Guidance
The USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is pleased to announce the release of the updated Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Estimator Tool with SY 2017-18 reimbursement rates. The updated tool is posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Administration, Community Eligibility Provision.

September is National Food Safety Month
Help create a culture of food safety in the school nutrition program environment, as well as the greater school community. Food safety education resources are available at http://www.fightbac.org/ as downloadable documents or as valuable links to add to social media venues. The KSDE 2017 edition of the HACCP Help Newsletter (HACCP Help 14) is another food safety resource and can be used to provide a mini staff development session on food safety and will be posted by September 1st. The current edition of HACCP Help, along with past editions are posted at www.kn-eat.org, Food Safety, HACCP Guidance & Resources, HACCP Resources, HACCP Help Newsletters.

Food Safety Training
A schedule with Food Safety Basics classes for September, October and November at locations across Kansas will be available soon at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training. School nutrition program staff who are not directors may take Food Safety Basics to meet the food safety training required within 6 months of hire and every 5 years thereafter. Once approved food safety training is taken, the Food Safety Training Record in KN-CLAIM must be updated. To register for a September 7 class in Emporia, contact KSDE CNW Office at 785-296-2276.

JumpStart for Directors
JumpStart for Directors will be held in Manhattan at the KSU Alumni Center on October 9 & 10, 2017. For more information, call 785-296-2276. More details and registration information are available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training.

Online Professional Development Classes and Tutorials
New additions to the professional development classes available through KSDE Training Portal are Implementing HACCP in Kansas, Child & Adult Meal Pattern Training and Pick a Peck of Produce. Food Safety Basics will be available in early September! These classes are available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training, Online Classes.
Online Pre-K Meal Pattern Training – Now Available!
If a sponsor has not attended an in-person CACFP Child and Adult Meal Pattern Training, this class is strongly recommended. After achieving a passing score, the early implementation form will be available for you to print, complete and send to KSDE for approval. To access the training, go to www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training, Training Opportunities, Online Classes.

SNA-KS: Fall Workshop
The 2017 Fall Conference & Industry Showcase is the place to “Bee!” Register now at www.sna-ks.org to attend the October 6-8, 2017 event in Topeka, Kansas. Educational sessions and speakers provide insight into school nutrition hot topics and the industry showcase highlights products to incorporate into the nutrition program.

Leadership Connections – Fall 2017
Watch for the schedule of Leadership Connections meetings that will be posted in September at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training. Plan now to attend and bring others from your school to learn more about Accommodating Children with Disabilities in the School Meal Programs including meal and service modifications, substitutions, procedural safeguards and non-disability situations.

Leadership Forum 2017 – Team Up and Talk
The annual Leadership Forum for School Food Service Directors will be held October 6 in Topeka. KSDE will share information on Hot Topics including Procurement, Non Program Food Calculations, Meal Modifications and more. Food Service Directors will also Team Up and Talk to share ideas and best practices. There is no registration fee and KSDE will provide lunch at no charge. Save the date and watch for registration details in September. Plan now to attend the Leadership Forum and stay for SNA-KS Fall Conference. You will not want to miss either of these amazing professional development opportunities!

Alternate Menu Options Survey
Please take a moment to participate in a short survey on alternate menu options. Results from this survey will be used to guide KSDE in the development of resources such as cycle menus and training on offering multiple entrée options in the National School Lunch Program. Sponsors who completed an Alternate Menu Options Survey in 2015 are also encouraged to complete this one to capture current information regarding menu development. To take the survey, go to the following link - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYM6BHR.

Farm to Plate Month
October is National Farm to Plate Month, a time to recognize the importance of farm to plate programs as a means to improve child nutrition, support local economies and educate children about the origins of food. National Farm to Plate Month is a great opportunity to plan a new farm to plate activity, organize a special celebration of current efforts, or initiate a new partnership. Watch for more ideas in the September Update!

National School Lunch Week – October 9-13
This year’s theme for National School Lunch Week (NSLW) “School Lunch: Recipes for Success”, was designed to help you tell your school lunch story, including the “secret ingredients” to your success. Share with students, parents, and school officials during NSLW to show them what makes your school lunch program special. Download the tool kit at www.schoolnutrition.org.
Sunflower Spotlight
Sunflower Spotlights are posted on our website at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Recognition!

Arkansas City, USD 470, is participating in the Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program for the first time! Five elementary schools in the district will be implementing the program in school year 2017-18 and the administrators and foodservice staff are excited and working hard to get the word out to the community. The elementary principals even starred in a promotional video to introduce the program to participating children and their families. The video can be viewed at https://youtu.be/9KrscVNXBmk and was also shared on the district’s Facebook and Twitter pages to let all of their followers know about the wonderful program coming this school year!

Personnel Update
Rachel Juenemann, RDN, LD will be joining the Child Nutrition & Wellness team on October 2nd as the School Nutrition Consultant for the NW Kansas area. A native of Colby, she graduated from Kansas State University with Bachelor of Science degrees in Dietetics and Nutrition & Health. Welcome Rachel!

It’s Back to School Season!
The Child Nutrition & Wellness team is happy to join the excitement of schools, teachers, school nutrition professionals, students and families to start a new academic year. Let’s embrace this season and encourage healthy school environments. The Team Nutrition Back to School Resources webpage provides awesome ideas for incorporating activities and resources into your school’s back to school night or open house. Resources include:

- **A Guide to Smart Snacks**
  Make the healthy choice the easy choice for your students this year. Healthy snacks help kids get the nutrition they need to grow and learn.

- **Healthier Middle Schools: Everyone Can Help**
  Engage teachers, principals, parents, food service managers, and students in school wellness efforts to support healthy food choices and physical activity at your local middle school.

- **Local School Wellness Policy Outreach Toolkit**
  Get everyone involved! Share how your school is creating a healthy and fun environment with these customizable flyers, presentations, newsletter articles, and social media posts.

- **Team Nutrition Posters**
  Refresh the walls and bulletin boards at your school with eye-catching images and messages that encourage students to develop healthy habits.

As always, if you have questions or we can help in any way, please call your area Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka office.

Cheryl, Kelly and Mark