May Update
Distributed to the School Nutrition Program Authorized Representatives Listserv
and the Food Service Directors Listserv
May 31, 2017

Program Renewal
All program renewal forms, instructions, guidance and Program Renewal Webinar recording are available at: www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Administration, Program Renewal (Program Renewal is in the drop-down list when you scroll over Administration).
- Program renewal documents are due by July 15, 2017.
- Reimbursement claims for school year 2017-2018 cannot be processed until all program renewal documents are approved by KSDE.

KN-CLAIM Update
The update of KN-CLAIM is almost complete! New KN-CLAIM is tentatively scheduled to be implemented July 25, 2017. Plan now to complete program renewal by the July 15 deadline.

USDA Updates
All Sponsors must have a written charge policy in place no later than July 1, 2017. The policy must be clearly communicated to families and all school or district-level staff members responsible for policy enforcement. SP 29-2017 references best practices identified across the nation and is posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What’s New. Sponsors can use these best practices to develop their own policies and or modify existing polices. Children who qualify for free meals may never be denied a meal, even if they have accrued a negative balance.

SP 30-2017 Transition Period for the Updated Child and Adult Care Food Program Meal Patterns
SP 30-2017 outlines a transition period for the updated Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) meal patterns and the updated infant and preschool meal patterns in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program (School Meal Programs). In recognition of the challenges associated with conforming to the updated requirements, during Fiscal Year 2018 (October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018), KSDE must provide technical assistance in lieu of fiscal action when they observe violations. KSDE must continue to take immediate fiscal action if a meal is completely missing one or more of the required food components (see 7 CFR 226.2, definition of “meal”, and 226.20(a)). The transition period will allow Sponsors to adjust to the updated requirements in the first year of implementation without having fiscal actions imposed.

School Meal Flexibilities for School Year 2017-2018- SP 32-2017
USDA recognizes that school nutrition professionals have worked diligently to overcome operational challenges in providing meals that encourage student participation and enhance their educational experience throughout the school day. However, schools and industry have expressed the need for additional time and assistance to effectively achieve changes in the school meal patterns, including those related to sodium and whole grains. In addition, USDA recognizes that schools need the flexibility to offer additional milk options to ensure children receive the nutrients provided by milk.
Whole Grain-Rich Requirements
Based on Section 747(a) of the Appropriations Act, for SY 2017-2018, State agencies may offer exemptions from the whole grain-rich requirements in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). State agencies may approve Sponsor exemption requests for specific products, if the Sponsor can demonstrate hardship(s) in procuring, preparing, or serving compliant whole grain-rich products that are accepted by students. Exemptions are allowed for any type of grain product(s) (for example, pasta, bread, brown rice, etc.) and for one or more different products. All exemptions that have previously been approved by KSDE may continue under the terms by which they were approved through SY 2017-2018. Sponsors granted exemptions must offer at least half of the grains which meet the whole grain-rich criteria. The Request for Exemption from the School Meals Whole Grain Rich Requirement for School Year 2017-2018 will be available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What’s New.

Sodium Limits
Under Section 747(b) of the Appropriations Act, for SY 2017-2018, schools must continue to meet Sodium Target 1 (as defined in 7 CFR 210.10(f)(3) and 220.9(f)(3)). FNS will continue to support Program operators in sodium reduction efforts with resources, technical assistance, and information through the FNS What’s Shaking? and Team Up for School Nutrition Success initiatives as well as through USDA Recipes. Schools are encouraged to continue to work towards creating low-sodium menus that students enjoy.

Low-Fat Flavored Milk
Under Section 747(c) of the Appropriations Act, through SY 2017-2018, State agencies have the discretion to grant Sponsors exemptions allowing service of low-fat (1-percent milk fat), flavored milk through the NSLP and the SBP and as a competitive food available for sale on campus during the school day. In order to qualify for the exemption, Sponsors must demonstrate hardship by documenting a reduction in student milk consumption or an increase in school milk waste. The Request for Exemption to Allow Service of Low-Fat Flavored Milk (1% milk fat) for School Year 2017-2018 will be available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What’s New.

Submitting Claims in June
Due to the State year-end fiscal close-out, all School Nutrition Program claims must be submitted by the end of the day on Monday June 20th to be paid in June. Any claims submitted after June 20th will not be paid until July, and will not receive the State Match portion of the National School Lunch Program reimbursement, as that account will be closed.

Claims Reminders
The Sponsor Claim cannot be certified if there are errors on the Site Claim. If, when certifying/submitting the Sponsor Claim and KN-CLAIM does not accept it, please check to see if there are Site Claim errors.
- Remember to always certify and then “Submit” the Sponsor Claim. You do have to click the “Submit” button in order for the claim to be submitted to KSDE for payment. When you are finished, everything should be in “Approved” status. If the claim is in “Pending” status, it has not been certified/submitted and will not get picked up in the payment process.

Community Eligibility Provision
For USDA guidance and Q & A’s that address common questions, go to www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Administration, Community Eligibility Provision. Contact Julie Henry at jhenry@ksde.org if you are interested in applying or have questions. Deadline to apply to participate is June 30, 2017.
Monthly Financial Management Reports

Important Reminder: Make transfers to the Food Service Fund for free adult meals or low paid meal price before the end of the state fiscal year - June 30!

USDA Verification Response Rate Challenge
USDA has launched the “Verification Response Rate Challenge,” a public forum for school district officials to share proven success stories and great new ideas with each other. SNA President, Becky Domokos-Bays, and FNS Deputy Administrator for Child Nutrition, Cindy Long, are leading our judging panel. FNS will highlight the winning submissions at SNA’s 2017 Annual National Conference in Atlanta. The Verification Response Rate Challenge runs through June 15. For details and participate in the challenge, go to https://www.challenge.gov/challenge/USDA-School-Meal-Programs-Verification-Response-Rate-Challenge/.

Wellness Policy Data
Complete the Wellness Impact Tool to accurately reflect the sponsor’s status in relation to the current Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines as of the end of SY 2016-17. School Wellness Policy data for every school district in Kansas is available to the public at KSDE Data Central: www.ksde.org, Data Central, Child Nutrition & Wellness Reports. The Kansas State Board of Education has approved updated Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines that will be effective July 1, 2017 for SY 2017-2018 and the Wellness Impact Tool will be updated with the new model guidelines policy statements this fall.

New CACFP Meal Pattern FAQ Resource
KSDE CNW has developed a Frequently Asked Questions resource focused on the New CACFP Meal Pattern. The FAQ is a compilation of answers to questions that sponsors have had as they have attended and conducted trainings. The FAQ resource can be located at: www.kn-eat.org, Child & Adult Care Food Program, Guidance, Menu Planning & Production Records.

Farm to Summer in Kansas
Summer is a time of agricultural abundance. Local harvests peak just as the school year draws to a close. Summer meal sponsors can boost participation by improving the quality of meals with fresh products. Local foods span the entire meal tray, from fruits and vegetables to dairy, grains, meat, eggs, and beans. There are numerous benefits to “bringing the farm” to summer feeding sites. Increase participation by improving the quality and appeal of meals and keeping kids engaged through fun, hands-on activities. Schools can get started with efforts to source locally during the summer months, testing out recipes using local foods and creating menus that kids will love. Sponsors that already source locally during the school year can build upon existing programming and contribute to a continuous, year-round farm to school program. Producers benefit from a reliable outlet for their products during the summer months and kids and teens access fresh, nutritious meals and experiential learning activities at meal sites, staying nourished and active while school is out.

Determine what is grown and available locally. Make a list or use K-State’s Buying Guide for Kansas Grown Fresh Fruits and Vegetables available at www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF2647.pdf. Think seasonally. Start with fruits and vegetables that are fresh and currently being harvested. Communicate with farmers, distributors and express your needs and commitment to buying local products. Consider a campaign such as Harvest of the Month or Farm Fresh Fridays. Use social media, menus, and resources to promote your program. Summer meal programs are ripe for local foods and agricultural-based activities.
Professional Development Opportunities
A wide range of high quality professional development opportunities are available for Child Nutrition Program personnel. These include KSDE’s Child Nutrition Management Academy, Administrative Update, Menu Planning classes, and Food Safety Basics classes. For a list of professional development classes that can be requested with class descriptions, go to: www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training, Kansas Professional Development Training System.

Third Wednesday Webinar – June 21st
Join us on June 21st at 2:00 pm to learn about the Food Safety Checklist and HACCP: Updating SOPs. 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.

Administrative Update 2017-18
SY2017-18 Administrative Update will be offered during CNMA and at additional regional locations throughout the summer. Topics will include new policy guidance for SY 2017-18 including Procurement and Buy American, Meal Modifications, Comprehensive Resource Management, Sodium Target Flexibility, Unpaid Meal Charge Policy, Professional Standards, Annual Civil Rights Training, Confidentiality, Verification and Determining Eligibility. In-depth Verification training will also be offered in September. Registration information is available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training. Remember the authorized representative or designee is required to attend administrative training annually!

Nutrition Standards for School Meals and Calculating Components
Nutrition Standards for School Meals and Calculating Components classes will be taught numerous times throughout the summer. Registration information is available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training for these free classes.

Jump Start for Managers
Professional development can help new and aspiring managers successfully supervise a school’s child nutrition program. Jump Start for Managers is designed to give a quick overview of program responsibilities, as well as, provide tips, guidance and networking opportunities. The two-day Jump Start for Managers will be held in three locations in Kansas in Summer 2017. Registration information is available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training.

Child Nutrition Management Academy and Staff Professional Development Classes
Child Nutrition Management Academy (CNMA) and Staff Professional Development Classes are available at 6 locations this summer. CNMA is a professional development program sponsored and coordinated by Child Nutrition & Wellness, KSDE. CNMA classes are designed for directors, managers, and other leaders in the organization and are flexibly structured so that participants may choose to attend one, some, or all three days of classes offered at each location. CNMA will offer training in the updated CACFP Meal Pattern, as well as, offer a track of professional development classes for all child nutrition program staff to participate in training at the same time.

CNMA will be held at three locations in June (Hays, De Soto, and Haysville) and three locations in July (Chanute, Abilene, and Liberal). Meal Modifications, Culinary Champions lab classes, Leading the Team, and Professional Communication are a few of the management level classes available in 2017. For a calendar of the classes, class descriptions, registration form, and costs, refer to the CNMA Mailer at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training.
Food Safety Training
The schedule for Summer Food Safety Basics classes is posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training. Remember to update your Food Safety Training Record in KN-CLAIM after your employees take a food safety class.

Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) Trainings
ICN will be launching its new eLearning portal June 14, 2017. Important Dates to Remember:
- Wednesday, June 7 - All courses in the current system need to be completed and all certificates downloaded. Profiles and certificates WILL NOT BE TRANSFERRED to the new system. Access to the current system will end at the close of business on June 7.
- Wednesday, June 14 - The new eLearning Portal will launch with 26 updated courses presented in a new and exciting learning experience.
You can find out more about the new eLearning portal at: http://www.theicn.org/elearning.

Online Classes

Updated Fact Sheet: The Benefits of Farm to School
The National Farm to School Network’s popular “Benefits of Farm to School” fact sheet has been updated to reflect current research and data on the positive impacts of farm to school and farm to early care and education activities. The fact sheet offers a research-based overview of the benefits of farm to school and ECE for economic development, public health, education, environment and community engagement, as well as a summary of benefits for stakeholder populations (students, schools, farmers/producers, and families/communities). This resource can be used to talk to school and local food producers about starting farm to school activities, to support policy advocacy work, for writing grant proposals and more. Download the updated “Benefits of Farm to School” fact sheet here.

Celebrate Dairy Month!
June is Dairy Month, a time to celebrate dairy nutrition and dairy farming, is around the corner! Kick off the festivities with a glass of milk to toast #WorldMilkDay on June 1 and spread the dairy love with a picture on social media. For more festive ideas, look at the online toolkit which includes a calendar of June Dairy Month events in the Midwest, dairy-inspired recipes, graphics and suggested social media posts.

KSDE Data Central
Data Central is a new resource for data for all KSDE programs. Numerous reports are available under the Child Nutrition & Wellness Reports link. To access reports on Free and Reduced Percentage by districts and buildings, click on the Kansas K-12 Reports link. To get to Data Central, go to www.ksde.org and click on the Data Central link at the top of the page.
Team Up for Smart Snacks

Family and Consumer Science educators, students, and School Nutrition Program staff “teamed up” to enhance the healthy school environment! Child Nutrition & Wellness collaborated with Career, Standards and Assessment Services-Career and Technical Education to encourage schools to celebrate with “smart snacks” as part of healthy school initiatives. School teams, consisting of a Family and Consumer Science educator, one or more students, and a School Nutrition Program staff person were challenged to use their creativity and food innovation skills to develop recipes that met the “Smart Snacks in School Nutrition Standards.” The response to the “Team Up for Smart Snacks - Celebration Edition” Recipe Challenge was tremendous. Over 102 teams from 24 Kansas schools took on the challenge to develop healthy flavorful snacks for celebrations! The submitted recipes were put into a standardized recipe format, nutritionally analyzed, taste tested, and scored. The top 3 recipes in the “Team Up for Smart Snacks - Celebration Edition” Recipe Challenge were...

First Place:
Destiny’s Peanut Butter Nuggets
Ell-Saline Middle School / High School USD 307
Team 3
- Family and Consumer Science Educator: Susan Nelson
- Students: Destiny Rea, Desiree Garman
- School Nutrition Program Staff Person: Rebecca Walters

Second Place:
Mint Chocolate Chip Ice Milk
Southeast of Saline Jr./Sr. High School USD 306
SES Smart Cooks Team 2 Life Dimensions FCS
- Family and Consumer Science Educator: Susan Wilson
- Students: Kate Weis, Emily Woodall, Hayley Whittcar
- School Nutrition Program Staff Person: Kim Kerr

Third Place:
Light Pumpkin Custards
Southeast of Saline Jr./Sr. High School USD 306
SES Smart Cooks Team 1 Life Dimensions FCS
- Family and Consumer Science Educator: Susan Wilson
- Students: Peyton Harp, Alex Keim, Skyler Kerr
- School Nutrition Program Staff Person: Kim Kerr

Honorable Mentions:
El Dorado High School USD 490 – Fruit Popsicles
Southeast of Saline Jr./Sr. High School USD 306 – Skinny Doodles
Blue Valley West High School – Afternoon Power Snack

The schools of the top three winning teams received a banner to display at their respective schools. The students in the top three winning teams will receive chef coats. All team members in the top three winning teams will be offered training grants to attend classes at Child Nutrition Management Academy Summer 2017. The “Team Up for Smart Snacks – Celebration Edition” Recipe Booklet will be available on the Kansas State Department of Education Child Nutrition & Wellness website, www.kn-eat.org, by September 2017.

Check out the 2016 “Team Up for Smart Snacks” recipe booklets available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Guidance, Smart Snacks in Schools:
- Team Up for Smart Snacks Challenge Recipe Booklet - 2016
- Team Up for Smart Snacks – Power Up After School - 2016

Child Nutrition & Wellness KANSANS CAN 2016-17 Best Practice Awards - Deadline June 30

The Kansas State Board of Education has a new vision: Kansas leads the world in the success of each student. This new vision for education calls for a more child focused system that provides support and resources for individual success and will require everyone to work together to make it a reality. The academic achievement and physical well-being of our students in Kansas today will impact the success of our communities, our state and the nation in the future. The good health that results from good nutrition and physical activity, and the learning that is possible as a result, is primary among those tools.

The purpose of this program is to encourage and reward outstanding practices in Child Nutrition & Wellness Programs in Kansas that support the Kansans CAN vision. There are many outstanding child nutrition programs in Kansas. We encourage you and your staff to make nominations for outstanding and/or innovative practices for recognition of your efforts. A nomination entry form is available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New. Nominations are due to the Child Nutrition & Wellness office on or before June 30, 2017. Winners will be notified by July 31 and presentations will be made at the August State Board of Education meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Child Nutrition & Wellness team at (785) 296-2276 if we can be of assistance with this process. We look forward to receiving your nominations and celebrating the Kansans CAN Best Practice Awards with you at the August 2017 State Board of Education Meeting.

Body Venture

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.” Requests to schedule Body Venture for the 2017-2018 school year are still being accepted for these dates in the specified areas:

- August 29, 31 - Shawnee County
- September 8 - Johnson County
- October 26 - Barton, Stafford or Russell County
- November 28 - Butler or Sedgwick County
- February 15 - Butler or Sedgwick County
- March 6 - Coffey, Osage or Lyon County
- March 29 - Shawnee County
- April 19 - Grant, Haskell, Kearny or Johnson County

The Request to Schedule form is available at www.bodyventure.org, Schedules. Contact Meg Boggs at mboggs@ksde.org or 785-296-2276 with scheduling questions.

School’s Out! Power Up for Summer Fun!

Kansas has at least 24 new Sponsors of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and over 75 new sites! Now, we need your help in getting the word out about the locations of meal sites in Kansas and in encouraging participation. For a list of sites with location information, go to www.kn-eat.org, Summer Food Service Program, Locate a Site Near You! This summer we have set the bar higher than ever to increase participation – to serve 1.5 million meals! Kansas Appleseed and KSDE have expanded Lunch Across Kansas from one week to a whole month! Consider how you could “Build a Successful SFSP” or “Make it One More” to help reach the goal of serving 150,000 meals to Kansas kids during Lunch Across Kansas in July. For more information, contact Kelly Chanay, kchanay@ksde.org.

Sincere appreciation for all efforts to help ensure that no child goes hungry this summer!

Cheryl, Kelly & Mark