Monthly Update

School Nutrition Programs

July 27, 2020

 Distributed to the School Nutrition Program Authorized Representatives Listserv and the Food Service Directors Listserv and posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New

Reimbursement Rates
Reimbursement Rates for FY 2021 are posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Key Links.

Indirect Cost Rates
Indirect Cost Rates for 2020-2021 are available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New. The rate for private schools is 10% (De Minimus Rate).

Attendance Factor
The state-wide attendance factor for SY2020-2021 is 95%.

Monthly Financial Management Reports
In order to complete the Annual Financial Report in KN-CLAIM by August 15, you MUST complete the online Monthly Financial Management Reports for Program Year 2020. The Monthly Financial Reports will automatically roll-up to create the Annual Financial Report once you click on the plus button.

Navigating Change 2020: Frequently Asked Questions
Q. Will all meals continue be served at no charge and claimed at the free rate during SY 2020-2021?
A. No. Starting on the first day of school for students in your sponsor, all school meals must be served and claimed through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). Therefore, a local meal charge policy must be in place and meals will be served and claimed based on individual student eligibility (with the exception of schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision). The nationwide non-congregate meal service waiver released on June 25, 2020 indicates a return to NSLP and SBP and not an extension of NSLP's Seamless Summer Option (SSO) or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

Q. Can you clarify the differences between Remote and Virtual learning?
A: Virtual students are enrolled in an approved virtual school or program. Remote learning students may be working online, but they are not enrolled in a virtual school and are enrolled as a traditional student. They may return to the building at some point during the year. In addition, remote learning students are students in the district. You can't pick up a student halfway across the state and enroll them as a remote learning student as can be done with virtual students.

Q. Can Remote Learning Students participate in Child Nutrition Programs?
Q. Must Sponsors provide meals for students participating in remote learning?
A: USDA National Office has been consulted if this is a MUST or a best practice. KSDE will provide guidance as soon as it is received.

Q. Can Virtual Students participate in Child Nutrition Programs if they are on school grounds for testing or for a class adjacent to a meal time?
A. Students enrolled in a “virtual” school would not be eligible for any meals because the student is not enrolled in a school per the definition by USDA at CFR 210.2 and what KSDE defines a Virtual School to be. In addition, the school could not claim reimbursement for the virtual student’s meal even if the student was on the school grounds adjacent to a meal service. However, the virtual student could purchase a meal at the adult price.

Q. How will meal service times be adhered to for SY 2020-2021?
A. USDA Program regulations at 7 CFR 210.10(l) and 220.8(l), state that Child Nutrition Program meals must follow meal service time requirements. USDA waived this requirement nationwide on June 25, 2020 for the duration of SY 2020-2021 to support safer access to nutritious meals. This will allow for flexibility for meals served in school and for meals served to remote learners. Sponsors must indicate the distribution time period and if distributing multiple meals, etc. and keep their Sponsor and Site Applications updated to reflect current distribution time period(s) and if they are distributing multiple meals at one time by indicating on COVID Waiver Q.#6.

Q. Will there be any meal pattern flexibilities for SY 2020-2021?
A. Yes. USDA issued a nationwide waiver on June 25, 2020 suspending the requirements under Program regulations at 7 CFR 210.10(b) and (c), 220.8(b) and (c), stating that NSLP and SBP meals must meet meal pattern requirements. Requests should be targeted and justified based on plans to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposures to COVID-19. Program operators, to the extent possible, are strongly encouraged to maintain and meet the nutrition standards for each program. To apply for a waiver, go to: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SH2F6FS.

Q. Will non-congregate feeding continue for SY 2020-2021?
A. Yes. USDA waived congregate meal requirements to ensure appropriate safety measures for the purpose of providing meals for SY 2020-2021. However, effective the first date students are considered back in school, meals will be served and claimed through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) during planned full or partial building closures as a response to COVID-19. The non-congregate waiver does not pertain to SSO or SFSP. Apply for the Non-Congregate Waiver in KN-CLAIM PY2021 NSLP/SBP.

Q. Will parents and guardians be allowed to pick up meals for all enrolled children in the household for SY 2020-2021?
A. Yes. USDA issued a nationwide waiver on June 25, 2020 allowing Program operators serving non-congregate meals during COVID-19 related operations to distribute meals to a parent or guardian to take home to their children. Program operators must maintain accountability and Program integrity. This includes putting processes in place to ensure that meals are distributed only to parents or guardians of eligible children enrolled in the school district, and that duplicate meals are not distributed to any child. Apply for this waiver in KN-CLAIM on the Waiver Application for Non-Congregate Meals Due to COVID-19 Question #9.
Q. Will grab and go meal sites be “open sites” allowing any student from any school district to receive a meal?
A. No. The concept of “open sites” exists only under SSO and SFSP and expires on August 31, 2020. All meals served to remote learners (grab and go, curbside pickup, home delivered etc.) once students are in session must only be served to enrolled students in your Sponsor.

Q. Where can we find information about COVID-19 Waivers available for SY2020-2021?

Q. When will FY2021 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grants be Awarded? What flexibilities are available to FFVP implementation in Hybrid and Remote Learning Environments?
A. USDA has not provided the allocation amount for each state to date. USDA has indicated they will include a Q & A guidance document in addition to the allocation policy memo that will answer implementation questions for the coming school year during the COVID-19 pandemic. Training will be scheduled for grantees once we are able to make the grant awards.

Q. Will the KSDE September 20 Count Date be extended due to the later school start date in many Kansas School Districts?
A. The September 20th Count Date is in Kansas State Statute. This year, September 20 falls on a Sunday, so the actual count date is Monday, September 21.

Q. The Letter to Households has already been sent to some households and now the school start date has been delayed/changed. Does an update need to be provided with the new 30-day carryover date?
A. Yes, an update should be provided by letter, email, using the school notification system or any method that will ensure the household does receive the notification with the new date. Reminder: The carryover date is based on the 30th food service day (days food is actually served to students).

Q. When does the National School Lunch Program start and Summer Meals (SFSP/SSO) end? For example, our district has scheduled 3 weeks of teacher inservice during August, but students will not be “in school” until September 9. Can we serve meals through the SFSP/SSO until September 9?
A. Yes, Summer meals could be served until the official start date of the students. Remember that the area eligibility and non-congregate waiver for SFSP/SSO extends only until August 31st. In this example, meals served via SFSP/SSO from September 1 to September 8 would have to be served in a congregate setting in an area eligible location.

Q. If families are picking up meals for school aged children and have a Pre-K student- does this count as co-mingling and the same food can be provided to the Pre-K through 5th grade students in the car?
A. Yes, this is co-mingling. Per SP01-2018, the “service area” refers to the place where students pick up or choose their meal items. If the Sponsor determines the Pre-K student is eligible for meal service because they are enrolled in the school district and has considered all factors in preparation of meals for Pre-K and K-5 students, they may serve the appropriate meal pattern to these students.
Q. What will be considered “co-mingling” this year? For instance, with social distancing we will have only one age group in the cafeteria at a time...so this would not be considered co-mingling and PRE-K would have to follow the PRE-K meal pattern?
A. Correct; this is not co-mingling and the Pre-K meal pattern would need to be followed for the Pre-K students.

Q. Our school district is considering having the High School Students eat at the same time as the PRE-K- spread out of course- is this co-mingling?
A. This would not be considered co-mingling and the sponsor would have to serve the Pre-K Meal Pattern. See SP37-2017 Q. 3. The option to serve the K-5 meal pattern to preschoolers is only allowed when preschoolers are co-mingled with K-5 students during meal service.

Q. If all students pick up breakfast in a grab and go bag prior to going to the classrooms- is this co-mingling and Pre-K can have the same as everyone else?
A. If the Pre-K students are being served meals in the same area where the K-5 students have to pick up their meals, then the Sponsor could serve the K-5 Meal Pattern to the Pre-K Students because this is considered co-mingling.

Serving School Meals to Preschoolers
As students go back to school and districts implement a variety of physically distanced mealtimes, pre-K students may be eating in their classroom and therefore no longer co-mingled with K-5 students. Meals served to pre-K students must meet the preschool meal pattern if not co-mingled with older students. Districts may find the Serving School Meals to Preschoolers resource helpful in navigating the meal pattern requirements of preschool students.

Food Service Facts Updates
Chapter 7, 10 and 28 have been recently reviewed and updates are highlighted in yellow.

Spanish Translations
Spanish translations of KSDE’s documents related to program renewal are available at www.kn-eat.org, Administration, Foreign Language Translations.

Excel Application for Child Nutrition Program (CNP) Benefits
The Excel Application is now available in KN-CLAIM. Use of the form is OPTIONAL. The Excel Application is NOT to be posted on a district’s website. It automatically determines student eligibility for reduced price or free CNP benefits based on the information entered. The Excel Application CAN be used by school personnel as follows:

- During enrollment, parents/guardians complete the Excel Application with assistance from school personnel. A paper copy is printed and the parents/guardians signs the excel application. The Determining Official will sign the Certification Worksheet and attach it to the Excel Application signed by the parents/guardians.
- Parents/guardians submit paper applications as usual. School personnel enter the data from the paper application on the Excel Application and use the Certification Worksheet to compute the household size and income. The Determining Official will sign and date the original paper application attaching the Certification Worksheet.
- Error-prone applications are identified on the Certification Worksheet.
**Breakfast Outreach**

Schools participating in the School Breakfast Program must inform families of the availability of breakfast prior to or at the beginning of the school year in the informational packets that are sent to each household with free and reduced price meal applications for the new school year. In addition, schools should send reminders regarding the availability of the School Breakfast Program multiple times throughout the school year.


Equipment needs evolve in response to certain situations. The challenge to package and transport menu items to multiple program sites has many program operators considering on-site packaging possibilities. Food bagging machines, tabletop food sealers and/or conveyor-type food packing machines can help program operators meet evolving needs; create labor efficiencies for the program; and allow safe delivery of program meals in a variety of ways at multiple locations. However, when food is sealed in packaging, food safety risks must be managed. In response, KSDE, in coordination with the Kansas Department of Agriculture, has developed an additional SOP to provide direction on how to safely seal potentially hazardous foods into packaging and when to request a variance on the 2012 Kansas Food Code from the Kansas Department of Agriculture. SOP 26 will be posted at [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), What's New, Child Nutrition Meal Service During COVID - 19 and will be added to the prototype HACCP plan at [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), Food Safety, HACCP Guidance and Resources.

**Review the HACCP Food Safety System and Revise the Plan**

An important part of a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) food safety system is to review and revise the HACCP Food Safety Plan at least annually or as changes occur. Summer is a great time to reflect on program practices and to ensure staff members are following the food safe practices identified in the site’s HACCP Plan. It is essential that the written HACCP plan accurately reflect what is being done in the kitchens. **As changes are made in response to COVID-19, it is important for the changes to be reflected in the HACCP Food Safety Plan.**

The “Worksheet to Review and Revise the HACCP Food Safety Plan,” available on the Child Nutrition & Wellness website, is an effective evaluation tool to use for this review.

**Review the Program’s Food Safety Training Record**

Please review the Food Safety Training Record located in KN-CLAIM under the Forms tab to ensure all of your school nutrition staff including the Food Service Director and Authorized Representative are current on approved food safety training. The Food Safety Training Record in KN-CLAIM should be updated each time a staff member takes an approved food safety class.

**Community Eligibility Provision – Application Available in KN-CLAIM**

For USDA guidance and Q & A’s that address common questions, go to [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), School Nutrition Programs, Administration, Community Eligibility Provision. Sponsors must complete the application at [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), KN-CLAIM, School Nutrition Programs, Applications, Community Eligibility Application by **August 31** if applying to elect the Community Eligibility Provision for SY 2020-21. If you have questions, please contact Julie Henry at jhenry@ksde.org or 785-296-2276.
Professional Development Opportunities Summer 2020

Many opportunities for learning are available this summer. Go to www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training to access the class list with dates, times and ZOOM links. The CNW Calendar also lists all classes by date and provides the ZOOM links at this link: www.kn-eat.org, CNW Calendar. If you would like to schedule a ZOOM Inservice for your Sponsor, contact Cindy Johnson at cljohnson@ksde.org.

Administrative Update SY2020-21

SY 2020-21 Administrative Update continues to be offered via webinars and through an online module. Choose the option that best meets your needs. Two remaining webinars will be offered:

- August 3 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm (for RCCI’s only). Join at: https://ksde.zoom.us/j/96413227492?pwd=VTRoNUlpcWRFU0hFSW9kQXgwYjRoQT09
- August 12 at 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Join at: https://ksde.zoom.us/j/92356446739?pwd=bdznMUZuWVV4OFhPV1dtXhDMVAXzZ09

Topics will include new policy guidance for SY 2020-21, Annual Civil Rights Training and COVID-19 Contingency Planning. Dates, times, and ZOOM links can be found at www.kn-eat.org, Training. Remember, the authorized representative or designee is required to complete this administrative training annually. Note: In-depth Determining Eligibility (designed for the Determining Official) and Verification training (designed for the Verification Official) will be offered at separate times. Dates, times, and ZOOM links are posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Training.

Jump Start for Managers

New managers and any kitchen manager ready for a refresher, can join KSDE Consultants for the two-day Jump Start for Managers via Zoom. Participants must attend both days to receive a certificate of completion.

- Day 1 on July 28 from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm at https://ksde.zoom.us/j/91035294401?pwd=UEM0dnJUa2hFWjYzbGZBTUNaYUI3UT09
- Day 2 on July 30 from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm at https://ksde.zoom.us/j/93550639660?pwd=SjdKZ2J2Wk4xTnVLcWtVRjRoTlFhZz09

Food Safety and HACCP Training

There is no need to preregister for the classes. Food Safety Basics will be taught as listed and several times this fall via live Zoom webinar and is also available as an online class in the KSDE Training Portal at: https://learning.ksde.org. Remember to update your Food Safety Training Record in KN-CLAIM under the Forms tab after your employees take an approved food safety class.

- **Food Safety Basics**, July 30 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm
  https://ksde.zoom.us/j/99708362656?pwd=ajAwN3M4bWVINXQxcWkyN1JoOEFMUT09
- **Food Safety Basics**, August 18 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm
  https://ksde.zoom.us/j/97160783894?pwd=ZEF6V2wxRDBBV053VWp5ckJyZ2JZUT09

The Child Nutrition Management Classes being taught via live virtual Zoom class.

- **Kansas HACCP** (6-hour class), August 6 from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.
  https://ksde.zoom.us/j/98077714259?pwd=cU5ZNHnrWlB6NGk3OEF1K0VCZ2JzUT09.
- **Kansas Food Safety in Schools** (8-hour class), September 1 from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
  https://ksde.zoom.us/j/92386498663?pwd=V010UTdRUmMrRjJvamE0SURSTndyZz09.

Reminder: New Food Service Directors and Authorized Representatives are required to have completed an approved 8-hour Food Safety class five years prior to hire or within the first 30 days of hire date.
**Determining Eligibility**
Determining Officials and Authorized Representatives are encouraged to attend a live Zoom webinar to receive in-depth training on determining eligibility. No pre-registration is required. The remaining training date and link is:
- August 5 from 1:30-3:30 pm
  [https://ksde.zoom.us/j/91381298958?pwd=ZGpBRUE4Z0JhZGRWTXQ5cWM1YjkUT09](https://ksde.zoom.us/j/91381298958?pwd=ZGpBRUE4Z0JhZGRWTXQ5cWM1YjkUT09)

**Nutrition Standards for School Meals**
Nutrition Standards for School Meals will be offered August 10 from 9:00 am- 4:00 pm via Zoom webinar. Join at: [https://ksde.zoom.us/j/95392715066?pwd=Tnp2OTQGhNVWcvWE5qcHBGY2I4dz09](https://ksde.zoom.us/j/95392715066?pwd=Tnp2OTQGhNVWcvWE5qcHBGY2I4dz09)

**Additional Professional Development Opportunities**
- Collaborating with Community Health Professionals, July 28 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
  [https://ksde.zoom.us/j/94209614956?pwd=NU1vR2YveTJua2NMZks0UkZCV0dUZzz09](https://ksde.zoom.us/j/94209614956?pwd=NU1vR2YveTJua2NMZks0UkZCV0dUZzz09)
- Calculating Components for Meats & Meat Alternates, July 29 from 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
  [https://ksde.zoom.us/j/97775779684?pwd=bVduc0pnmc6DnG5sV1BQV3VlBxjPTQ09](https://ksde.zoom.us/j/97775779684?pwd=bVduc0pnmc6DnG5sV1BQV3VlBxjPTQ09)
- Is This Meal Reimbursable- Breakfast, August 11 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am
  [https://ksde.zoom.us/j/96915336510?pwd=a1pDdG5UOVByQVZiTDkrU2RqNG56QT09](https://ksde.zoom.us/j/96915336510?pwd=a1pDdG5UOVByQVZiTDkrU2RqNG56QT09)
- Is This Meal Reimbursable-Lunch, August 11 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
  [https://ksde.zoom.us/j/98864716052?pwd=Yk9wTTNP3TQ3cS82Q1FYR05adIlz09](https://ksde.zoom.us/j/98864716052?pwd=Yk9wTTNP3TQ3cS82Q1FYR05adIlz09)

**Online Professional Development - Classes and Tutorials**
CNW staff continue to develop new interactive online training classes and tutorials that can be accessed free of charge 24/7 via the KSDE Training Portal. The professional development classes offer a certificate upon successful completion which can be printed. Tutorials are 5 minutes or less with no quiz and no certificate. Create an account now at [https://learning.ksde.org](https://learning.ksde.org) and see the entire list of classes and tutorials available. For detailed instructions on creating an account and accessing the training, go to [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), School Nutrition Programs, Training.

**Professional Development Tracking**
Review and update your Sponsors professional development tracking record for all nutrition program staff to ensure professional development requirements for the current program year are achieved. Summer is a great time to take advantage of all the KSDE sponsored professional development available to child nutrition program personnel.

**Track Training Like a Star with the Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool**
USDA Team Nutrition is excited to demonstrate the latest enhancements to the Professional Standards Tracking Tool (PSTTT). The link to the tool is: [https://pstrainingtracker.fns.usda.gov/](https://pstrainingtracker.fns.usda.gov/). Join the webinar that will showcase the newest enhancements on Wednesday August 12 from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Register at this link: [https://usda-fns.webex.com/usda-fns/onstage/g.php?MTID=e72e805c7532d12ac0006f7afe9a09c06](https://usda-fns.webex.com/usda-fns/onstage/g.php?MTID=e72e805c7532d12ac0006f7afe9a09c06)

**At-Risk Afterschool Meals**
Help students make the grade this coming school year by serving At-Risk Afterschool Meals to school-aged children in lower income areas. Help ensure that children have access to nutritious meals and snacks 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. For more information, call 785-296-2276 and ask for Laura.
Fiscal Year 2020 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grants

Kansas has received an allocation of $243,583 to competitively award equipment assistance grants to eligible Sponsors participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). This year priority does not have to be given to high-need schools where 50% or more of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Priority will be given to those schools who have not received 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, supports expanded participation in the NSLP, ability to use locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables, strategies for adopting lunchroom changes that provide more convenience and appeal to the student population such as Grab and Go or Kiosks and/or to support the establishment, maintenance or expansion of the School Breakfast Program through innovative service models. The Kansas grant application is available at www.knsnroleat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What’s New. Applications are due August 14, 2020.

Crunch Off – October 14th

Kansas is participating in the Mountain Plains Crunch Off with nine other States! Mark your calendars and make plans so that students can bite into a local apple on this day. The state with the most “crunches” will be crowned the Crunch Champion! We encourage you to host your event Wednesday, October 14th, but any date in October will work. Due to COVID guidelines; there is no requirement to have your group participate together at the same time. Individually, virtually or in small groups are all allowed.

Registration begins August 1 at this link https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/535866Q. A toolkit with resources and marketing information is provided at the registration link. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Depew, Farm to Plate Project Director at bdepew@ksde.org or phone 785-296-2262.

SY2020-2021 Meal Service Resources from No Kid Hungry - NEW

Introducing No Kid Hungry resources designed to help schools and child nutrition program operators navigate the unprecedented challenges of School Year 2020-2021 and ensure children continue to receive the nutrition they need.

- **The Importance of School Meals** - School meals are essential to student health and academic success - they support the local economy, and they are critical in the new school year as families may continue to struggle financially due to the coronavirus pandemic.

- **Meal Service Options for School Year 2020-2021** - Confused about the waivers for SY20-21? Not sure what options there are for meal service during distance learning or four-day school weeks? Check out this resource.

- **2020-2021 Back-to-School Meal Service Toolkit** - This Back-to-School Meal Service Toolkit has been designed to help you plan for the 2020-2021 school year, as we continue to navigate the coronavirus pandemic. It includes detailed information about current waivers, financial recovery and recommended meal service models. It was designed to be easy to navigate and features a hyperlinked table of contents so that you can click to instantly access any section. The toolkit is also embedded with a number of other helpful resources.

- **Equipment List for Meal Service SY 20-21** - As school districts prepare for the 2020-2021 school year, food and nutrition service departments are considering meal service options and the equipment they may need to make those successful. This resource will give you tips on how to re-purpose equipment you may already have and highlight equipment needed for meal delivery.
Staffing Update

Emily Brinkman has left her role on the CNW team as Dietitian Specialist and will be transitioning to a new job at KDHE. Thanks to Emily for her work coordinating the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, Team Nutrition grant projects and development of additional weeks of the Healthier Kansas Menus.

Michelle Irvine, Senior Administrative Specialist, has transferred to another team at KSDE. We thank her for the customer service she provided.

Meg Boggs, Program Consultant, will assume the role of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Coordinator. Meg had been working part-time as the Body Venture Program Manager and has been working full-time and assisting with Professional Development projects. She was the Food Service Director at Cair Paravel for 11 years.

Kyleen Harris has joined the Child Nutrition & Wellness team as a Professional Development Specialist. Kyleen was Food Service Director at Abilene Public Schools for 5 years and recently completed her Master’s Degree in Nutrition at KSU. Welcome Kyleen!

Back to School Resource: Parent Outreach Language

The Child Nutrition & Wellness team has developed parent outreach language that has been reviewed and approved by the Kansas Department of Agriculture Food Safety Licensing Division that you may use to communicate with parents prior to school opening this fall.

Food is a source of nourishment, stability, and comfort for your child. The (insert your school district/program name) is working very closely with state agencies in ongoing efforts to protect the health and wellness of children. Federal, state, and local organizations have collaborated to prioritize food availability and food safety for young customers participating in school nutrition programs. We want to assure you that school nutrition program personnel are taking every precaution to support the safe delivery of program meals to your children in whatever form that takes in the coming months.

Standard protocol for handling foods served in school nutrition programs is to follow the four key steps of food safety: clean, separate, cook, and chill. Following strict food safety protocol has been, and will continue to be, part of program practices at all times.

Protocol includes:
• Proper handwashing before handling foods and food-contact surfaces.
• Application of the “No Bare Hand Contact Rule” when handling ready-to-eat foods.
• Exclusion of employees experiencing symptoms of illness.
• Purchase of foods from reputable sources.
• Cooking and holding foods at proper temperatures.
• Cleaning and sanitizing surfaces, as well as disinfecting facility surfaces when necessary.

The strict practices followed by school nutrition program personnel are designed to protect the safety of the foods and better ensure children receive quality meals that meet their nutritional needs. The Kansas State Department of Education, the Kansas Department of Agriculture, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and (insert your school district/program name) take the health and wellness of your child very seriously.

For more information about our program, contact (insert name, email, and or phone number). For more information about Covid-19, refer to (insert relevant links approved by school district).
Program Year 2021 – Stronger Together in Uncertain Times
Thank you for all your efforts and hard work in contingency planning for School Year 2021-21! The discussion in the Town Hall Meetings and Contingency Planning Workgroups has been robust and helpful. Notes from each of these meetings and other information to assist with Navigating Change 2020 can be found at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New, Child Nutrition Meal Service During COVID-19.

In Recognition and with Sincere Thanks
KSDE recognizes that many Sponsors have stepped up to provide a safety net and serve meals to Kansas kids during the unanticipated school closure and continue through the summer. You have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic and have packed and distributed more than 12,740,690 meals/snacks to date. There are not words adequate to express our admiration and appreciation.

If you have questions or if we can assist in any way, please call your area Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka office. Together we are stronger and can meet the challenge of providing access to safe and nutrition meals to Kansas children while keeping personnel safe.

Cheryl, Jill and Julie

For more information, contact:

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