USDA Child Nutrition Programs Administrative Review Summary Report

School Food Authority: St Anthony's Catholic School Agency Code: 377374

School(s) Reviewed: St Anthony's Catholic School

Review Date(s): March 25-26, 2019 Date of Exit Conference: March 26, 2019

State agencies (SA) are required to conduct administrative reviews to assess School Food Authority (SFA)'s administration of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and other school nutrition programs. The objectives of the Administrative Reviews are to:

- Determine whether the SFA meets program regulations,
- Provide technical assistance.
- Secure needed corrective action,
- Assess fiscal action, and when applicable, recover improperly paid funds.

General Program Reminders/Updates:

- The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) School Nutrition Team (SNT) conducts School Nutrition Skills Development Courses (SNSDC) each summer in various locations around the state. Courses cover many areas of the school nutrition programs including administrative responsibilities, program basics, meal pattern requirements and menu planning, financial management, meal benefit determination process, professional standards, procurement, and many other topics. More information along with other upcoming trainings and webinars can be found on the Wisconsin DPI School Nutrition Training webpage (dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/training).
- SFA staff are encouraged to pursue GOALS Certification. GOALS stands for Goal Oriented Achievement Learning Skills. This is a certificate endorsed by the DPI and is obtained by completing training in nutrition, program administration and operations, or communications and marketing. For more information go to the Wisconsin DPI <u>School Nutrition Training</u> webpage (dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/training/goal-oriented-achievement-learning-skills).
- The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a toolkit of resources to assist schools in meeting
 the nutrition standards on their <u>Healthier School Day: The School Day Just Got Healthier</u> webpage.
 The topics covered include Smart Snacks, offering fruits and vegetables, reducing sodium, and
 serving whole grain-rich products (http://www.fns.USDA.gov/healthierschoolday).
- The Smarter Lunchrooms Movement encourages schools to implement low-cost and no-cost lunchroom solutions to help students select healthier meal options
 (http://smarterlunchrooms.org). Smarter Lunchroom techniques are easy to begin implementing and help encourage student consumption of fruits, vegetables, legumes, non-flavored milk, and other healthful choices. These strategies are effective and research-based. Consider trying the Smarter Lunchroom techniques for increasing consumption of white milk.

Appreciation/Commendations/Noteworthy Initiatives:

Thank you to the staff at St Anthony's for the courtesies extended to us during the on-site review and for being available to answer questions and provide additional information. All were very receptive to recommendations and guidance. In addition, thank you for taking the time to respond to the off-site questions and requests, as well as pulling records for the on-site portion of the review.

REVIEW AREAS

1. MEAL ACCESS AND REIMBURSEMENT

Certification and Benefit Issuance

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications

- Applications must be reviewed in a timely manner. An eligibility determination must be made, the family notified of its status, and the status implemented within 10 operating days of the receipt of the application.
- Children are eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits on the date their eligibility is determined by the Determining Official.
- When an application only has one frequency of payment indicated for all of their reported incomes on the application, the income should not be converted to annual, but using the <u>Income Eligibility</u> <u>Guidelines</u> one would look at the amount of their income under the column indicating that stated frequency (i.e., weekly, twice monthly, every two weeks, monthly, annually)
- When a household has income in addition to a loss from a business, that income must be included on the free and reduced application in full and is not offset by the business loss. A business loss (negative dollar amount) would become \$0 for the income on the application.

Annual Income

• There has been a recent modification to the requirement pertaining to the reporting of annual income on an application. USDA released SP-19, 2017 on March 20, 2017 allowing households to report current income as an *annual figure*. Annual income is typically reported for households with jobs that are seasonal, self-employed, or agricultural work since that is a more accurate representation of *current income*. These applications may now be processed at face value. However, most households that receive regular pay checks, will report income based on what is *currently earned* and the frequency of that pay, i.e. weekly, biweekly, bimonthly or monthly.

Income Eligibility Guidelines

The current <u>Income Eligibility Guidelines</u> (IEGs) are used to determine applications, whether manually
or electronically. If done through software, please check that the income levels are updated each year
after July 1.

Household Size Box

• The total household member size box includes all children and adults in the household and must match the number of names on the application for that application to be considered complete.

Incomplete Applications

Any application that is missing required information, contains inconsistent information, or is unclear is
considered an incomplete application and may not be determined until clarified with the household.
The SFA may return the application to the household or contact the child's parent or guardian either
by phone or in writing/email. The determining official should document the details of the
conversation plus date and initial. Applications missing signatures must be returned to the parent to
obtain. Reasonable effort should be made to obtain the missing information prior to denying the
application.

Other Source Categorical

- If a household submits an application that indicates Other Source Categorical Eligibility, such as homeless, migrant, or runaway, the SFA must confirm the children's status by an appropriate program official either through direct contact with the agency or by a list of names provided by the agency, before meal benefits can be provided. Once confirmed, this eligibility is only available to the designated child and is not extended to other members of the household.
- Applications that indicate a child is a foster child are categorically eligible for free meals. The child's status for free meals does not require confirmation of eligibility prior to receiving benefits. This benefit is not extended to other household members.

Public Release

- All SFAs are required to distribute a <u>Public Release</u> before the start of the school year (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/free-reduced-applications#apps). The purpose is to inform the public that free and reduced price meals are available. SFAs must annually distribute the Public Release to:
- o Local news media
- Grassroots organizations (local organizations providing services to populations in need)
- Major employers contemplating or experiencing large layoffs
- Local Unemployment Office (as applicable)
- SFAs are not required to pay to have the public release published but must maintain documentation of whom it was sent to along with the specific materials distributed.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

- Application materials and other communications with households concerning eligibility determinations must be provided in a language that parents or guardians can understand in order to diminish any language barriers to participation for individuals with limited English proficiency.
- SFAs must make reasonable efforts to provide household letters and application forms to families in the appropriate languages.
- To assist SFAs in reaching households with limited English proficiency, the SNT provides the Wisconsinized version of the USDA Free and Reduced Price Meal application materials in English, Spanish, and Hmong.
- The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) website offers many other <u>foreign language translations</u> of the Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals (https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/translated-applications).
- The nonprofit food service account may be used to pay for translation services if there is a need to translate materials in a language that is not currently available.

Direct Certification

- As a reminder, you are required to run direct certification a minimum of three times a year: at or near
 the beginning of the school year, three months after the initial run and six months after the initial run.
- The effective eligibility date for a DC eligible student is the date of the original output file.

Transferring Students

• Transferring the eligibility determination between LEAs ensures that qualifying students continue to receive school meal benefits as they transition to new schools, and avoids the possibility of unpaid meal charges. FNS strongly encourages LEAs to immediately accept the eligibility determinations made at a student's previous LEA (if they participated in NSLP) when a student transfers between LEAs during the school year, over the summer, or at the start of the next school year. Wisconsin DPI requires source documentation of the student's previous eligibility. The transfer of eligibility between LEAs for students attending CEP schools will be required by July 1, 2019.

Disclosure

- The information provided by the family on the free and reduced price application is to be used only for determining eligibility for meal or milk benefits.
- The LEA must seek written consent from the parent or guardian to use the information provided on
 the application or through direct certification for non-program purposes, such as athletic or testing
 fee waivers, registration fee waiver, school fees, etc. Consent must be obtained each school year. Find
 the <u>Sharing Information with Other Programs</u> template on the Free and Reduced Meal Applications
 and Eligibility webpage (https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/doc/sharing-infoother-programs.doc).
- For anyone receiving eligibility information to approve students for non-food service program
 benefits after parental consent is received, the *Disclosure Agreement* form should be signed and on file
 at the district. A template <u>Disclosure of Free and Reduced Price Information</u> form is located on the
 SNT website (http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/doc/disclosureagreement.docx).

Verification

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

- Requirements for household notification of selection for verification are included at 7 CFR 245.6a(f).
 When a household is selected for verification, the LEA must inform the household, in writing, of its
 selection and must provide a list of the documents or other forms of evidence the household must
 submit to the LEA. When the LEA uses agency records or direct verification to confirm eligibility, a
 letter or email informing the household of its selection for verification is not required, as verification is
 completed.
- When applications are chosen for verification, the person designated as the Confirming Official must review the application(s) to ensure the initial determination is correct prior to contacting the family.
 There is a place for the Confirming Official to sign and date on the back of the application.

• When a benefit eligibility status increases, the change must take place within 3 days. When a benefit eligibility decreases, the change cannot take place before 10 calendar days and a notice of adverse action is sent in writing with appeal rights procedures.

Findings and Corrective Action Needed: Verification

☐ **Finding**: The finding was while verification was completed, written notification was not provided to household regarding the verification process.

Corrective Action Needed: Please submit a statement how this will be corrected in the future.

Meal Counting and Claiming

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

- Meals may only be charged to a student upon receipt of a reimbursable meal to assure proper benefits issuance.
- When entering the claim it is necessary to use the edit check to calculate your reimbursable meals by site for claim submission.
- Meals must be offered to all students each day school is in session a full day, so DPI has created <u>Field</u>
 <u>Trip meal resources</u> to help schools offer student meals (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/menu-planning).
- REMINDER: Meal benefits apply only to the reimbursable meal. The reimbursable meal includes milk as one of the required components, and must be priced as a unit. If the student decides to take only milk, this is not a reimbursable meal and will be charged for the milk as an a la carte item.
- When entering the claim it is necessary to use the edit check to calculate your reimbursable meals by site for claim submission.

2. MEAL PATTERN AND NUTRITIONAL QUALITY

Many thanks to the Food Service Director (FSD) who works hard every day to provide well balance and healthy meals to the children at St. Anthony Catholic School. The FSD is positive, enthusiastic, friendly, personable, and worked well with the students. Thank you also to the kitchen staff for doing a great job preparing healthy and safe meals for students. Offering so many fresh fruit and vegetable options on the garden bar is wonderful to see. Students took a variety of these foods, which encourages healthy, lifelong eating habits. Thank you for preparing the needed documents to review for the on-site portion of the administrative review.

<u>Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders</u>

Training

Anyone involved with the USDA School Meal Programs is encouraged to attend Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) training classes. These are offered in the summer and select other times throughout the year. The classes provide an overview of all areas of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) requirements including verification, free/reduced meal applications, meal pattern, and record keeping requirements. Travel/meal expenses are allowable food service expenses. Information on upcoming trainings can be found on DPI's <u>Training</u> webpage, under Upcoming Trainings (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/training#up). Numerous webcasts are also

available, which cover a wide array of topics. These can be found on DPI's <u>SNT Webcasts</u> webpage (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/training/webcasts).

The 2019 School Nutrition Skills Development Courses (SNSDC) dates and locations have been released:

- Appleton (Fox Valley Technical College): July 16-18, 2019
- Milwaukee (Alverno College): July 23-25, 2019
- Rice Lake (Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College): July 30-August 1, 2019
- Middleton (Kromrey Middle School): August 6-8, 2019
- Wausau (Northcentral Technical College): August 13-15, 2019

Registration and class schedules will be posted to the website in early May. Please visit the training webpage for more information.

Regular trainings are offered on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) webpage as webcasts, webinars, and on-site trainings. Check our <u>training</u> webpage often for current and upcoming opportunities. Members of the School Nutrition Team (SNT) are also available for technical assistance any time throughout the year. A complete list of <u>DPI SNT staff</u> can be found on our website (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/directory).

School Breakfast Program

More than 8.1 million children across the United States start their day with the School Breakfast Program, a Federal program that provides States with cash assistance for non-profit breakfast programs in schools. It may be of benefit to consider participating in the School Breakfast Program (SBP). Participation in SBP will enable the SFA to help students start their school day with good nutrition and provide reimbursement to you for doing so. More information is available on the <u>School Breakfast Program</u> webpage (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/school-breakfast-program). Another great resource for school is the DPI <u>Serving up a Successful Breakfast Program</u> (https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/pdf/serving-up-a-successful-school-breakfast-program.pdf).

Production Records

Production records are intended to be useful tools to record information prior to production, during production, and following production. Also, production records are required to document that food meeting the meal pattern was served in the appropriate serving sizes, recording leftovers is also required. Continue to work with all staff members to record leftovers. Thorough, accurate production records aid the menu planner with forecasting, ordering, menu planning, and reducing food waste.

Be specific on production records about the identity, brand, and description of the items served. Instead of whole apple, list the case number and if the students can take separately. List the specific type of granola bar or cereal bar offered, and list both when two types are offered, rather than just listing "cereal bar" or "granola bar" as these do not indicate exactly what was served. There is a wide variation in formulation of the many products that fall into these categories. Fruit sizes (e.g. case count) should also be recorded. It is helpful to include not just portion size, but also crediting, on the production records. A list of production record requirements ("Must Haves and Nice to Haves") and sample production record

templates can be found on our <u>Production Records</u> webpage (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/menu-planning/production-records).

As a reminder, there is a difference between weight (ounces) and volume (fluid ounces). The fact that spoodles, which are used to measure volume, are often referred to as a "4 oz spoodle" for example, makes this somewhat confusing. A 4 oz or $\frac{1}{2}$ cup spoodle is actually 4 fl oz rather than 4 oz by weight. This is an important distinction as the weight of the contents of the spoodle can vary significantly (think about the difference in weight between $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of popped popcorn vs. $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of peas). Current production records list 4 oz of fruit, for example strawberries, grapes, and applesauce. A better way to list whole fruits, like strawberries and grapes would be, for example (how many) 8 whole strawberries = $\frac{1}{2}$ cup. It could help when the student only chooses one vegetable or fruit. Canned fruits (ex. diced peaches or apple sauce) and/or cooked vegetables (ex. corn or peas) need to be listed in cups, $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ cup, not 4 oz. Please see the chart below.

	Measures	Measured In	Conversions	Tools Used
WEIGHT	Meat/meat alternates Grains	Ounces (oz) Grams (g) Kilograms (kg) Pounds (lb or #)	1 lb = 16 oz 1 oz = 28 g	Scale
VOLUME	Fruits Vegetables Milk	Fluid ounces (floz) Tablespoon (T or TBSP) Teaspoon (t or tsp) Cups (c) Pint (pt) Quart (qt) Gallon (gal) Liter (L)	3 tsp = 1 TBSP 16 TBSP = 1 c 1 c = 8 fl oz 1 pint = 2 c 1 quart = 2 pints 1 gallon = 4 quarts	Spoodles, measuring cups, measuring spoons, scoops, dishers, ladles

Fruit and Vegetables

The vegetables on the garden bar are being used to meet the weekly vegetable requirements, portion sizes of at least 1/8 cup each should be communicated to students with signage. Garden Bar Signage Template can be found on our Signage webpage, under the heading Additional Signage Resources (https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/doc/salad-bar-signage-template.docx), (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/menu-planning/signage). Portion sizes served must be full, level scoops in standardized measuring utensils. Applesauce was served in a 4 oz spoodle and was not completely filled. A full ½ cup of applesauce must be in the spoodle to be considered the ½ cup fruit required to be offered with the reimbursable meal and to be the required ½ cup fruit selected under Offer versus Serve (OVS) if they do not select any other fruits or vegetables.

According to The School Day Just Got Healthier Fact Sheet: Calories in School Meals, there are no specific maximums for fruits or vegetables (https://fnsprod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/HHFKAfactsheet-calories.pdf). Schools may allow greater amounts than the required minimums by offering self-service or allowing seconds servings of fruits and vegetables. Additional offerings do count towards the weekly calories limits, but because fruits and vegetables are generally lower in calories, they can be excellent sources for satisfying meals and sustaining energy. USDA policy memorandum SP 41-2014 also states that with time-limited lunch periods and increased amount of fruits and vegetables offered as part of the meals, some students may be inclined to save some items for consumption at a later time (https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/cn/SP41- 2014os.pdf). There is no federal prohibition of this practice, and Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) encourages it as a means of reducing potential food waste and encouraging consumption of healthy school meals. For food safety concerns, this practice should be limited to only food items that do not require cooling or heating, such whole fruit, cereal, or packaged crackers.

3. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Nonprofit School Food Service Account

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

- The Aids Register shows the amount deducted from reimbursement to pay for shipping, handling and processing costs of USDA Foods and to track all program deposits made to the agency's account. Both resources are accessible from our Online Services webpage (dpi.wi.gov/nutrition/online-services).
- SFAs must limit the net cash resources in order to not exceed three months average expenditures.

Annual Financial Report (AFR)

- All revenues (reimbursements and student payments) and expenses (including food, labor, equipment, purchased services, and the other category) need to be separated into each program; this will aid the school in calculating its "yearly" reference period for nonprogram food compliance which is highly recommended. The new 16-17 Annual Financial Report instructions are located on the DPI website (https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/pdf/annual-financial-report-instructions.pdf).
- The ending balance on June 30 from the previous year needs to be the beginning balance on July 1 for the current year.
- The ending balance, on June 30, can never be a negative balance. A transfer must be made from the non-federal funds to bring the ending balance to \$0.00.
- These categories of the AFR that should be addressed when tracking revenues and expenditures include:
 - Expenses for paper supplies, chemicals, thermometers, etc., should be reported under "Other".
 Only expenses for edible food items and beverages should be reported under "Food".
 - "Equipment" should reflect major purchases of equipment. Utensils, pans, smaller equipment such as a cart, etc., should be reported under "Other".
 - Under "Purchases Services" report any time you pay someone for services provides such as equipment repair and health inspections.

- Under "non-program foods", report the expenses for any food items served to students that are not claimed as part of the reimbursable meal. Revenues and expenses from adult meals, a la carte, and caterings would also be included here.
- When revenues are recorded from the federal reimbursement payments, make sure that you are recording the full reimbursement based on the printed claim form and not what is actually deposited into your account. As you will note on the claim, there may be money deducted from shipping, handling and processing fees for USDA Foods. The amount deducted from your revenue should be reported as an NSLP food expenditure for private schools and a purchased service for public schools.

Allowable Costs

- The nonprofit school food service account is to be used for the operation of the school meal program including food, supplies, equipment and personnel.
- The nonprofit school food service account may not be used to purchase land and/or buildings unless approved by FNS.
- Allowable costs are defined in 2 CFR 200 Subpart E and should be necessary, reasonable and allocable. More information on allowable costs can be found within the <u>Indirect Costs guidance</u> (http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/financial).
- Bad debt is an unallowable expense to the food service program. A transfer must be made from non-federal funds to cover student account write-offs. SP23-2017 Unpaid Meal Charges guidance Q & A may be found our Financial Management webpage (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/financial).

Unpaid Meal Charge Policy

- USDA Policy Memorandum SP 46-2016 requires all SFAs operating federal school meal programs to have a written and clearly communicated policy that addresses unpaid meal charges. For a snap-shot on what the policy must include, see the <u>Unpaid Meal Charges In a "Nutshell"</u> (http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/pdf/unpaid-meal-charges-nutshell.pdf). For a more comprehensive overview, see SP 23-2017: <u>Unpaid Meal Charges Guidance</u> https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/pdf/sp-23-2017.pdf
 - Best Practices
 - Local meal charge policy checklist
 - Sample outstanding balance letter
 - Sample robo-call script
- Funds in student meal accounts are considered a liability until a meal is purchased. When the funds are
 left "unclaimed", they cannot be used to offset another student's negative account, unless paid
 households have chosen to donate those funds to the school food service account. All funds left in any
 student meal account which cannot be contacted must be turned over to the Wisconsin Department
 of Revenue (DOR) as unclaimed property. The DOR has rules concerning unclaimed property that
 must be followed (https://www.revenue.wi.gov/DOR%20Publications/pb82.pdf).

Paid Lunch Equity (PLE)

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

 Thank you for completing the Paid Lunch Equity tool each year and adhering to the pricing requirements.

Revenue from Non-program Foods

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

- Non-program foods include: Adult Meals, A la Carte, Extra Entrees, Extra Milk (for cold lunch or milk break), Vended Meals (meals sold to other agencies), Catered Meals, and Food Service operated Vending Machines.
- All costs associated with non-program foods, including food, labor, equipment, and purchased services
 must be covered by revenues received from the sale of those foods. Non-program foods may not be
 supported by reimbursable meals or have a non-program foods loss absorbed by the food service
 account. Thus non-program foods may never run in the negative unless non-federal funds are
 transferred into the food service fund to cover the deficit.
- Non-program Food costs and revenues must be separated from Program food costs and revenues. Technical assistance was required regarding breaking out labor for non-program foods.
- Since non-program foods include Adult Meals and extra milk, these expenses and revenues must be separated from Program foods.
- SFAs that sell <u>only</u> non-program milk and adult meals as non-program foods are <u>exempt</u> from completing the USDA Non-program Food Revenue tool (http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/pdf/exceptions-nonprogram-revenue.pdf).

Adult Meals

- Adult meals are considered non-program foods. Food service programs must price adult meals above the overall cost of the meals. Since adult meal costs can be difficult to calculate, SFAs must, at a minimum, follow the minimum pricing guidelines in Food Nutrition Services Instruction 782-5.
- A <u>Wisconsin Adult Meal Pricing Worksheet</u> has been developed to assist the SFA in pricing adult meals (http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/doc/wisconsin-adult-meal-pricing-guide.doc).

Indirect Costs

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

- Allowable Expenditures assessed to the food service fund must be supported with documentation for items such as gas, electricity, waste removal, fuel, water, etc. for the school district. Examples of supporting documentation for costs assessed to food service fund could include:
 - Rent consultation with knowledgeable resource person on appropriate charges per facility (i.e., local reality broker who has knowledge of current rates for rent of similar facilities).
 - o Utility charges separately metered or current usage study by the local utility company.
 - Labor expenditures based on actual amount of time worked specifically for the purpose of school food service times the employee's wages and benefits.
 - Printing/publishing documentation of actual costs or documentation to support how these costs were prorated from the district's total costs, based on volume.
 - Waste disposal services, extermination services, and laundry services documentation of actual costs or documentation to support how these costs were prorated from the district's total.

Findings and Corrective Action Needed: Indirect Costs

☐ Finding: The finding was that a flat rate of 100.00 for secretary services is charged to food service without supporting documentation. The church had to transfer 800.00 into the account last year to cover a loss in the school lunch program. It was suggested that secretary services not be charged to the program due to a loss in the food service program that occurred last year and per secretary is occurring again this year.

Corrective Action Needed: If the school choses to still charge the lunch program for secretary services, please conduct a time study or submit time cards to justify the charges for the secretary services. If the school decides to discontinue secretary services being charged to the food service program, please submit a statement regarding this decision.

4. GENERAL PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

Civil Rights

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

Nondiscrimination Statement

When including the <u>non-discrimination statement</u> on letters, menus, website, and other documents used to convey program information, it is necessary to use the current statement which was updated in 2015 (http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/civil-rights).
 However, when space is very limited, such as on the printed menus or low balance notices, the abbreviated statement may be used, "This institution is an equal opportunity provider." Either of these statements must be in the same size font as the other text in the document.

And Justice for All Poster

• "And Justice for All" posters need to be posted in public view where the program is offered.

Civil Rights Training

- Civil rights training must be conducted on a yearly basis for all staff and volunteers who administer any portion of a school nutrition program.
- Civil rights training had been attended by all staff in the schools and documentation was available for review.

Civil Rights Self-Compliance Form

• The Civil Rights Self-Evaluation Compliance form is required to be completed by October 31 annually.

Special Dietary Needs

• All food substitutions made outside of the meal pattern requirements must be supported by a signed medical statement from a licensed medical professional. SFAs may use the <u>prototype Medical Statement</u> for Special Dietary Needs posted on the DPI website, which is also available in Spanish and Hmong (http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/special-dietary-needs). Meals served to students with special dietary needs with the signed medical statement do not need to meet meal pattern requirements. Additional information on <u>special dietary needs</u> can be found on the DPI School Nutrition Team website (http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/special-dietary-needs). This <u>flow chart</u> gives guidance on special dietary needs, as well (https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/pdf/sdn-flowchart.pdf)

- School food service staff may make food substitutions, at their discretion, to accommodate children
 without a signed medical statement from a licensed medical practitioner. It is highly recommended
 that the SFA have a completed medical statement on file from a medical authority (which could be the
 school nurse) to support the request. These accommodations made for students must meet the USDA
 meal pattern requirements in order for the meals to be reimbursable. It is recommended that the SFA
 develop a policy for handling these types of accommodations to ensure that requests are equitable for
 everyone.
- Juice may not be substituted for fluid milk unless juice is specified as a substitution on a medical statement signed by a licensed medical practitioner. Water is available to all students, but an SFA may choose to offer lactose free milk or provide a fluid milk substitute that meets the nutritional requirements set forth by USDA. Nutrition information for a fluid milk substitute the SFA wishes to provide for students, must be approved by the SNT office. For more information on <u>fluid milk substitutes</u>, please see our Special Dietary Needs webpage (http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/special-dietary-needs).

Overt Identification

 The meal counting system must prevent overt identification of students receiving free and reduced price benefits.

Processes for complaints

All SFAs should have procedures (written procedures preferred) in place for handling civil rights complaints in regards to discrimination in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. A SFA may always attempt to resolve a situation that is occurring in real time. However, if an individual states that they wish to file a civil rights complaint, the SFA must provide them with the information necessary to do so and not impede an individual's right to file. Please refer to the <u>USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form</u> for assistance in filing these complaints (https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf).

Findings and Corrective Action Needed: Civil Rights

Finding: The finding is that the non-discrimination statement is not included in the school handbook that references the lunch program.
rrective Action Required: Please submit a statement of how this will be corrected for future ndbooks.
Finding: The finding is that the school was unaware of a civil rights procedure or policy specifically for food service. Please develop a plan or include a line in the schools current non- discrimination policy for food service.

Corrective Action Required: Please submit a statement on how the school will address this issue.

Local Wellness Policy

<u>Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders</u>

The local wellness policy requirement was established by the Child Nutrition and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Reauthorization Act of 2004 and further strengthened by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) of 2010.

At a minimum, SFAs must permit participation by the general public and the school community including parents, students, and representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, and school administrators in the wellness policy process. In addition, SFAs must designate one or more school officials to ensure the SFA complies with the policy.

Content of the Wellness Policy

The final Local School Wellness Policy Implementation Under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 rule requires the SFA to retain basic records demonstrating compliance with the local school wellness (LWP) requirements. If no LWP has been developed, the SFA must establish a written policy. For assistance in the creation of a LWP, SFAs are encouraged to utilize the Wisconsin Wellness: Putting Policy into Practice - School Wellness Policy Toolkit (http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/wellness-policy/toolkit). At a minimum the wellness policy must include:

- Nutrition education (Recommended goals related to nutrition education include integrating into other core subjects or offering as a stand-alone course for all grade levels.)
- Nutrition promotion (At a minimum SFAs must review smarter lunchroom tools and strategies. Additional promotional activities include contests, surveys, food demonstrations, taste testing, and farm to school programming.)
- Physical activity (Recommended that SFAs offer time for students to meet the 60 minute goal, this
 could include recess, classroom physical activity breaks, and opportunities for physical activity
 before and after school.)
- Guidelines for all foods and beverages sold on the school campus during the school day (The LWP must contain guidelines for Federal school meal requirements and competitive food standards [Smart Snacks]).
- Guidelines for all foods and beverages provided on the school campus during the school day (SFAs
 must develop standards for foods provided to students, this includes classroom parties, schools
 celebrations, food offered as rewards/incentives.)
- Guidelines for food and beverage marketing (At a minimum, SFAs must restrict marketing to food and beverages that meet competitive food standards on the school campus during the school day.)
- Public involvement and committee leadership (SFAs must invite and allow for a diverse group of stakeholders to participate in the development, implantation, review, and updating of the LWP.
 SFAs must also identify the official responsible for oversight of the LWP to ensure school compliance.)
- Implementation, assessment and update of policy (At a minimum, SFAs must notify the public about the content, implementation of, and updates to the LWP. SFAs must complete a triennial assessment to evaluate compliance with the LWP, how the LWP compares to model wellness policies, and progress made in attaining the goals of the LWP).

Resources:

- Please refer to the USDA <u>summary of the requirements</u> for local school wellness policies (http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/tn/LWPsummary_finalrule.pdf).
- USDA Food and Nutrition Service has information on the <u>local school wellness policy</u> process and wellness policy elements (https://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/school-wellness-resources).
- Wisconsin Team Nutrition has several <u>wellness policy resources</u> available, including a toolkit, a wellness policy builder, and wellness policy report card (http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/wellness-policy).

Findings and Corrective Action Needed: Local Wellness Policy

☐ **Finding:** SFA LWP <u>meets some but not all</u> requirements as stipulated above in addition there is currently no wellness committee.

Corrective Action Required: Please provide a timeline for updating your policy to become compliant with the final rule. Please also include in your statement when a committee will be created and how stakeholders will be informed of the ability to participate. Finally please submit a statement of understanding of the triennial assessment that is required which is to evaluate compliance with the LWP every three years.

Smart Snacks in Schools

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

The Smart Snacks Final Rule, published in the Federal Register on July 29, 2016, finalized science-based nutrition guidelines for competitive foods sold on the school campus during the school day. Foods and beverages sold in schools must meet both the general standards and nutrient standards unless the sales qualify for an exemption. You can find more information on our Smart Snacks webpage.

At the time of the on-site review there were no competitive foods or beverages sold at St Anthony Catholic School. If any food or beverage sales occur in the future, the items must either be in compliance with the Smart Snacks general and nutritional guidelines, or must qualify as an exempt fundraiser. A staff member at each school should be responsible for documenting compliance of exempt fundraisers and any other competitive food sales. You can find fundraiser tracking tools on our Smart Snacks webpage (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/smart-snacks).

Professional Standards

<u>Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders</u>

- The Professional Standards regulations in 7 CFR 210.30 established hiring standards for new school nutrition program directors, hired on or after July 1, 2015, that manage and operate the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. In addition, the regulations established annual training standards for all school nutrition program directors, managers, and staff which must be tracked.
- Each SFA must designate at least one staff member as a program "director". A program "director" is the person designated to perform or oversee the majority of the program duties such as sanitation, food safety, nutrition and menu planning, food production, procurement, financial management, record keeping, customer service, nutrition education, and general day-to-day program management.
- The hiring standards for SFA directors are based on the size of the SFA and includes education, school nutrition experience and food safety training requirements (http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-: nutrition/pdf/professional-standards-hiring-chart-by-district-size.pdf).

<u>Professional Standards: New Food Service Director Hiring Requirements</u>

<u>Professional Standards: Training Requirements</u>

Annual training must be job-specific and intended to help employees perform their duties well. The
required annual training hours vary according to the employee's role in the management and
operation of the school nutrition program.

- Trainings can be provided in a variety of formats (online, in person, webinars) and through various providers (DPI, USDA, in-house, etc.).
- SFAs should clearly document all required training information and maintain that file including the
 name of staff person, date hired, title/position, brief list of core duties/responsibilities, status (full,
 part-time, substitute, volunteer, etc.), professional standards position (director, manager or staff).
 Learning codes are not required, but encouraged. A template-tracking tool is posted to our
 Professional Standards webpage (http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/training/professional-standards).
 Technical assistance provided regarding training for volunteers.

Annual Training Requirements for All Staff

- Directors: 12 hoursManagers: 10 hours
- Other Staff (20 hours or more per week): 6 hours
- Part Time Staff (under 20 hours per week): 4 hours
- If hired January 1 or later, only half of the training hours are required during the first school year of employment.

Water

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

Water is required to be available at no charge to students during the lunch and breakfast meal services. Schools can provide free water in a variety of ways, such as water pitchers and cups on lunch tables, a water fountain, or a faucet that allows students to fill their own bottles or cups.

For more information and resources on the water requirement, see our <u>Water Availability webpage</u> (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/water-availability).

Food Safety and Storage

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

<u>A Flash of Food Safety</u> is a video series designed to help school nutrition professionals understand and apply safe food practices (www.fns.usda.gov/ofs/food-safety-flashes). The <u>Office of Food Safety</u> website (www.fns.usda.gov/ofs/food-safety) includes food safety resources.

Food Safety Inspections

- Every school operating USDA School Child Nutrition Programs must have two food safety inspections during each school year: including food safety inspection and a review of the site's Food Safety Plan.
- Food safety inspection reports must be posted in public view. Posting the food safety inspection report in the same location as the "And Justice For All" poster can be a convenient way to have both items publicly visible.

Temperatures

 All cooling equipment must have internal temperatures taken and recorded daily on temperature logs. Posting them directly on the equipment makes recording convenient and a regular part of daily routines.

Food Safety Plans

- All schools must have a comprehensive, site-specific food safety plan on-site which includes all
 process 1, 2, and 3 items, all applicable standard operating procedures (SOP), all equipment, and a
 listing of food service staff at that site. The food safety plan must be reviewed annually. A prototype
 food safety plan template as well as template SOPs may be found on the <u>SNT Food Safety</u> webpage.
 (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/food-safety)
- The procedures detailed in the SOPs included in the site-specific food safety plan should be followed by all food service staff, student workers, volunteers, and any other people involved in the implementation of Child Nutrition Programs at all times.

Food Employee Reporting Agreements

- All food service employees must have a signed <u>Food Employee Reporting Agreement</u> on file (https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/foodemployeereportingagreementsupplement.pdf).
- Employees must sign a new Food Employee Reporting Agreement form if changes are made to the document. While there are no requirements as to how frequently food service employees must sign a Food Employee Reporting Agreement form, it is the best practice for each food service employee to annually review and sign an agreement to reinforce the information contained in the document.

Storage

- SFAs are required to ensure that facilities for the handling, storage, and distribution of purchased and donated foods are properly safeguarded against theft, spoilage, and other loss (7 CFR 210.13(d)).
- The on-site and/or off-site storage areas were reviewed, including freezers, refrigerators, dry good storage rooms and other areas.

Time/Temperature Control for Safety (TCS) Food

Milk and dairy products

Shell eggs

Meat (beef, pork, and lamb)

Poultry Fish

Shellfish and crustaceans

Baked potatoes

Heat-treated plant food, such as cooked rice,

beans, and vegetables

Tofu or other soy protein Sprouts and seed sprouts

Sliced melons Cut tomatoes Cut leafy greens

Untreated garlic-and-oil mixtures

Synthetic ingredients, such as textured soy protein in meat alternatives

Time as Public Health Control

- When using "Time as a Public Health Control:"
 - The internal temperature must be at or below 41 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) at the beginning of the holding period for cold time/temperature control for safety (TCS) food.
 - TCS food can be held up to 6 hours at an internal temperature between 41°F and 70°F under monitored conditions. Provisions must be made to discard product if the 6 hour time limit is exceeded, the temperature of the cold TCS food rises above 70°F, or the food is removed from service.
 - Hot TCS foods can be held up to 4 hours at an internal temperature greater than 70°F. Provisions must be made to discard product if the 4 hour time limit is exceeded, the temperature of the hot TCS food falls to 70°F, or the food is removed from service.

 There can be no leftovers and no reuse of the items covered under this plan. Thus, if any TCS food is held without mechanical refrigeration during service, including TCS foods on garden bars, all leftover TCS food must be discarded.

Findings and Corrective Action Needed: Food Safety

☐ Finding: The finding was that the most current health inspection was not posted.

Corrective Action Required: Please post most the most current inspection. Corrected on-site, no further action needed.

Buy American

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

The Buy American provision requires school food authorities (SFAs) to purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodity or product. A "Domestic Commodity or Product" is defined as an agricultural commodity or product that is produced or processed in the United States using substantial agricultural commodities that are produced in the United States (products from Guam, American Samoa, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Northern Mariana Islands are allowable under this provision as territories of the United States). "Substantial" means that over 51 percent of the final processed product consists of agricultural commodities that were grown domestically. The Buy American provision (7 CFR Part 210.21(d)) is one of the procurement standards SFAs must comply with when purchasing commercial food products served in the school meals programs.

The following information must be recorded on a Buy American Non-Compliant Product List of your choosing:

Note: In reference to the competitive procurement process, this form may be valid up to the full duration of the contract. DPI allows for a max-term of 5 years with all contracts.

- 1. Date
- 2. Name of product
- 3. Country of origin
- 4. Reason
 - a. Cost analysis SFA determined the cost of the domestic product, when compared to the non-domestic product, was above the predetermined allowable cost difference established by the SFA. Ex. If domestic product costs 20% more than non-domestic product, and no domestic option/alternative is available, then the SFA will purchase non-domestic product.
 - b. **Seasonality** Product(s) is/are not available domestically during certain times of the year (SFA is required to record or list the months that the domestic product is not available). Ex. Blueberries are not available domestically during the months of December June.
 - c. **Availability** Product(s) is/are not available to purchase domestically, ex. pineapples, bananas, mandarin oranges, and black Pepper/other spices.

- d. **Substitution** In the event a domestic product is unavailable due to a distributors' inability to provide, a substitution of product(s) may occur (the SFA is required to record the reason the distributor substituted the product). Ex. At the time of ordering/shipping domestic products was unavailable/damaged at distributor site and domestic options could not be substituted and as a result non-domestic products was substituted in its place.
- e. **Distribution** the SFA's contracted distributor is unable to source domestic products and as a result, distributor does not carry the domestic product(s) (the SFA is required to record the reason the distributor carries the non-domestic product). *Ex. Due to supply, chain constraints, recall of domestic product by processor, SFA contracted distributor was unable to source domestic product leaving only non-domestic option available for order fulfillment.*
- f. **Other** Please provide a written explanation. Ex. The SFA received a donation of non-domestic oranges. Ex. The SFA did not use School's Nonprofit Food Service Account to purchase the non-domestic products.

You may record additional information if you find it beneficial. A suggested <u>Buy American - Non Compliant Product List template</u> can be found on the <u>Buy American webpage</u> (https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/school-nutrition/doc/buy-american-noncompliant-list.docx; https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/procurement/buy-american). For more information on Buy American exceptions, visit the <u>Buy American Provision Memos</u> webpage (https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/procurement/buy-american/provision-memos).

Findings and Corrective Action Needed: buy American

☐ **Finding:** Buy American documentation not provided.

Corrective Action Needed: Please submit a statement indicating understanding of the Buy American Provision and describe in detail how documentation will be tracked, kept, and organized going forward.

Reporting and Recordkeeping

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

 All free and reduced price applications, including applications from households denied benefits must be kept on file for a minimum of three years after the final claim is submitted for the fiscal year to which they pertain.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Outreach

Commendations/Comments/Technical Assistance (TA)/Compliance Reminders

Summer Meals

A goal of USDA Child Nutrition Programs is to ensure all students have access to healthy and nutritious meals year-round. USDA requires all SFAs to inform families of where their students can receive a free meal in the summer months. SFAs can inform families of summer meals via the following methods:

 Promotion of the <u>summer meals locator</u> on the DPI Summer Meals webpage (https://dpi.wi.gov/community-nutrition/sfsp/find-summer-meals-site)

- Promotion of calling 211 to locate meals in the area
- Promotion of the ability to text 'food' to 877-877 to locate meals in the area
- Promotion of the USDA <u>Summer Food</u> website (http://www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks)

Resources:

- To access an inclusive map of all potential participating sites in your area, see the <u>interactive map</u> on the SFSP website (http://www.fns.usda.gov/capacitybuilder).
- For more information on Summer Feeding option contact:
 Amy J. Kolano, RD, CD, Summer Food Service Program Coordinator
 Phone: 608.266.7124; e-mail: amy.kolano@dpi.wi.gov

Carolyn Stanford Taylor the State Superintendent of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction shares a vision that every student will graduate prepared for college and career. Her goals are for students to have the knowledge, skills, and habits that will allow them to succeed in life after high school. Access to quality nutrition plays a major role in developing those life-long habits.

The School Nutrition Team believes that what school nutrition programs do every day plays a very important part in the success of every child being able to graduate. We all know that well-nourished children are ready to learn. Thank you for all you do to ensure student success.

For more information on this initiative, please visit the Wisconsin DPI Every Child a Graduate webpage (dpi.wi.gov/statesupt/agenda-2017).



With School Nutrition Programs!