USDA Child Nutrition Programs

Commendations, Corrective Actions & Technical Assistance

School Food Authority: Amery School District Agency Code: 480119

School(s) Reviewed: Amery Intermediate Review Date(s): January 24, 2019

Review Team: TCB Reviewer **Date of Exit Conference:** 1/24/2019

Corrective Actions Due Date: 04/15/2019

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 School Nutrition Training 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 Amery School District 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.

The TCB review team appreciates the eagerness of the staff at Amery School District for their willingness to make changes to meet school nutrition program regulations. The staff is concerned for the nutritional well-being of their students as evidenced through food safety, menu, service, local wellness, and overall responsiveness to recommendations made while on site. We were impressed at the overall cleanliness of the kitchen and the courteousness of staff toward students.

The TCB review team is confident that Amery School District will continue to improve their knowledge and operation of child nutrition programs.

Commendations

Commendation #1: Thank you for your work throughout the review to ensure information was received and reviewed.

Required Corrective Actions

Please review and reply to this Corrective Action Plan to identify procedures and/or documents needed to correct these issues.

Finding #1: The SFA did not process all household applications in compliance with 7 CFR 245.6(a). One application was missing the adult signature. Potential Fiscal Action will be calculated when corrective actions are received and approved.

Required Corrective Action #1: Contact household with incomplete application and request the missing information. Upload a copy of the completed application into the shared Google folder or email to the consultant.

Finding #2: The correct non-discrimination statement was not included on all program materials. (Each of the "Family Letters" shared during the off-site process.

Required Corrective Action #2: Update non-compliant program materials to include the correct non-discrimination statement. Upload the corrected materials to the shared Google folder or email to the consultant.

Recommended Technical Assistance

Please review the following Technical Assistance; a response is not required. Internally, identify procedures and/or documents needed to work toward continuous improvement of the program.

Technical Assistance #1: 301 free and reduced-price meal application determinations were reviewed; one error was identified.

The State Superintendent of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction shares a vision that every student will graduate prepared for college and career. His 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).



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