



SCHOOL  
NUTRITION TEAM

# School Nutrition News

Winter 2023 Vol 15 Issue No 2

## Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

The [Community Eligibility Provision](#) (CEP) is a non-pricing meal service option for school food authorities (SFAs) in low-income areas. CEP allows high-poverty SFAs to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting USDA Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications.

At the conclusion of school year (SY) 2021-22 many SFAs were exploring options to continue offering free meals after the USDA waivers to operate the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) ended. As of January 2023, there are 25 SFAs that are newly participating in the CEP, adding a total of 90 sites offering meals at no cost to students. In total there are 139 SFAs participating in CEP for a total of 590 sites this school year. Please reference the [SY 2022-23 Participating CEP Sites List](#) to view all SFAs and sites.

## Nominate a School Nutrition Superhero of the Month!

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) School Nutrition Team is always looking for food service staff to feature as the "School Nutrition Superhero" each month on the main [DPI Facebook Page](#). The goal is to recognize someone who is doing an excellent job in their role. If you know a School Nutrition Superhero nominate them by sending an email to [DPIFNS@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:DPIFNS@dpi.wi.gov).

### FEATURED STORIES

[School Nutrition Summer Training](#)

[Wisconsin School Breakfast Challenge Returns!](#)

[2022 Equipment Assistance Grant](#)

[Whipping Up Wellness! Student Chef Competition Culinary Training Course](#)

[SNT Member Updates](#)

[Give SNACS a Try!](#)

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JANUARY 16-20, 2023  
[Around the World in 80 Trays](#)

FEBRUARY 23, 2023  
[Wisconsin Chili Lunch](#)

MARCH 6-10, 2023  
[National School Breakfast Week](#)

JUNE 18-21, 2023  
[SNA-WI Annual Conference](#)

# Preschool Meal Pattern and Family Style Meal Service

Under the [Preschool Meal Pattern](#) in the National School Lunch (NSLP) and School Breakfast (SBP) Programs, Offer versus Serve (OVS) is not allowable. Preschool students must be served all components in at least the minimum serving size for their age, or family style meal service may be used as an alternative.

When utilizing [Family Style Meal Service](#) children serve themselves from common dishes of food and small pitchers with the assistance of supervising adults, as needed. Meals are considered reimbursable if students are seated at the table and serve themselves **at least** ¼ cup fruit, vegetable, or a combination of both.

For more information, please visit the [Infants and Preschool in NSLP and SBP webpage](#).



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# School Nutrition Summer Training

DPI has revamped the annual School Nutrition Skills Development Courses (SNSDC) and we are proud to announce the new [School Nutrition Summer Training](#). Launching in Summer 2023, this new training will feature beginner and advanced learning tracks to better align with your learning goals and will be offered both in-person and virtually. Information and registration will be posted on the DPI Training Team webpage in the spring of 2023. We hope to see you there!



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# 2022 Equipment Assistance Grant

USDA awarded Wisconsin DPI \$1,103,098 to subaward to school food authorities (SFAs) for up to two pieces of equipment with a total cost of \$50,000. The application period for the 2022 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant will close on February 6, 2023. Application links were sent to the Authorized Representative and Food Service Director of all eligible SFAs. Applicants will be notified via email if they are selected or not to advance to Part 2 of the application process. If you have questions about the Equipment Grant, please email [dpiequipgnt@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:dpiequipgnt@dpi.wi.gov).



# The Wisconsin School Breakfast Challenge is Back

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) School Nutrition Team is partnering with Hunger Task Force (HTF), Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry (NKH), and the School Nutrition Association (SNA) of Wisconsin to promote breakfast in schools through the Wisconsin School Breakfast Challenge.

Schools across Wisconsin are invited to compete for prizes and recognition by increasing participation in their School Breakfast Program. The Wisconsin School Breakfast Challenge "Big Cheese" scorecard provides different ways for schools to improve breakfast nutritional quality, integrate Farm to School, involve students and administrators, and leverage social media to earn points. The more activities your school completes, the more points you earn. For a full list of scoring activities, the Challenge toolkit, and to register see the DPI School Breakfast Program webpage. The challenge begins February 1 and ends February 24, 2023. Winners will be announced during National School Breakfast Week. For questions, contact [DPISBP@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:DPISBP@dpi.wi.gov).



Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.™

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# Whipping Up Wellness, Wisconsin Student Chef Competition 2023

Wisconsin Team Nutrition is pleased to announce the eleventh annual Whipping Up Wellness, Wisconsin Student Chef Competition. Teams of middle and high school students are invited to develop a nutritious, student-friendly recipe featuring local foods that can be incorporated easily into the school food service program. The competition consists of a recipe contest and a cooking competition. Teams must submit a team application and an electronic photo of their dish to the Department of Public Instruction **by March 16, 2023**.

The top five finalists from the Recipe Contest will be invited to prepare their recipe during the Cooking Competition at Madison Area Technical College – Truax Campus on **Thursday, May 18, 2023**. Dishes will be judged on taste, student appeal, presentation, and creativity.

More information on the competition, including a link to the application, can be found on the [Whipping up Wellness webpage](#).



# Recap: Nutritious, Delicious, Wisconsin Week

During the last week of October, school food service professionals prepared student-developed, made-from-scratch recipes to celebrate Nutritious, Delicious, Wisconsin Week. Students at about 55 schools around the state celebrated local Wisconsin agriculture by enjoying either the [Taco Slaw](#), which features local carrots and apples, or the [Wisconsin Parfait](#), which showcases local apples and dairy.



Lake Country School's Wisconsin Parfait!

As a bonus, schools that served these recipes received brand new Harvest of the Month Posters and service line clings to promote Wisconsin agricultural products or local foods. Thank you to all who participated!

Visit the [Nutritious, Delicious, Wisconsin](#) webpage for more resources that can be used to promote your school's Harvest of the Month program! Not sure where to begin? Our Nutritious, Delicious, Wisconsin toolkit contains a short [Article on Local Procurement](#), which can help you get started.



## New! Special Dietary Needs Example Policy

A Special Dietary Needs procedure or policy is required for all SFAs. The School Nutrition Team has created a [Special Dietary Needs Example Policy](#) that can be used to create a policy for your school or district. Visit the [Special Dietary Needs webpage](#) for more information on meal accommodations. On this page, you can also find access to the contact information of the SNT's special dietary needs specialists.



# SNT Member Updates

## Farewell and Best Wishes to...

**Claire Nagel**, *USDA Foods & Procurement Contract Specialist*, who retired in September after 5 years with the DPI. Claire looks forward to spending lots of time with her children and grandchildren in retirement.



## Welcome to...

**Kassidy Wright**, *USDA Foods & Procurement Contract Specialist*

**Favorite School Meal:** Chicken Patty! I loved that they always served it with rice pilaf!

**Hobbies & Interests:** Being outdoors on our farm with my husband, traveling, going up north to Hayward and St. Germain, playing volleyball, and cooking and baking for my two sweet boys, Henry (3) and Otto (6 months)

**Favorite Part of Your Job:** Getting to know my rockstar team!



**Kristan O'Toole**, *Public Health Nutritionist*

**Favorite School Meal:** Since going out to schools, my favorite meal has been a glazed chicken drumstick with a dinner roll, tater tots, pears, and chocolate milk

**Hobbies & Interests:** I enjoy finding new recipes and cooking, weightlifting, playing board games, reading, learning about other cultures and trying new activities!

**Favorite Part of Your Job:** I enjoy interacting with school nutrition staff and learning about all the ways they serve nutritious meals to students.



**Christina Rothe**, *Public Health Nutritionist*

**Favorite School Meal:** Pasta with Marinara Sauce

**Hobbies & Interests:** Spending time with family and friends, watching and going to sporting events and reading a good book.

**Favorite Part of Your Job:** Visiting different schools and seeing what an amazing job they are doing feeding students.



**Haley Donlan**, *Public Health Nutritionist*

**Favorite School Meal:** Bosco Sticks

**Hobbies & Interests:** Traveling, playing golf, cooking

**Favorite Part of Your Job:** being able to travel around the state to see how schools are getting creative to increase their breakfast and lunch participation!



# Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) 2022-23

Through the FFVP Grant, USDA has provided funding for a record number of elementary students from 235 schools to receive a fresh fruit or vegetable snack two or more times per week.

This school year more than 85,000 Wisconsin children in high need elementary schools are snacking on fresh fruits and vegetables outside of mealtimes in the hopes of increasing overall acceptance and consumption of fresh, unprocessed produce.

Schools awarded the FFVP grant are encouraged to purchase different varieties of fruits and vegetables that students may not otherwise have the opportunity to try. This year schools have offered students fruit and vegetables including jicama, horned melon, and beet sticks.

The FFVP application for the 2022-23 school year will open March 16, 2023 and close April 14, 2023. Look for application instructions on our FFVP webpage in February.



## Give SNACS a Try

Did you know that SNT's School Nutrition Accountability Software (SNACS) can be used for much more than the Administrative Review (AR)? It could be the perfect solution for your Student Information System (SIS) and/or Eligibility Certification needs.

SNACS is free to use and offers users access to the SNACS online free/reduced meal application. SNACS also helps with the application approval and direct certification processes, provides step by-step guidance through the annual verification process, contains a student information system and much more. To learn more about using SNACS and the many features SNACS offers, visit the [SNACS webpage](#) and use the "Schedule a Demo" button to request a live demo of the software with a member of the SNACS Support Team. If you have any questions, please contact the SNACS Team at [DPISNACSSupport@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:DPISNACSSupport@dpi.wi.gov).



## GOALS Recipients

Congratulations to the following people who have recently earned their GOALS Certificate:

- **Janelle Martoz**, School District of Denmark
- **Michelle Dickinson**, Trinity Lutheran School



# About Us

School Nutrition News is published three times per year by the Department of Public Instruction.



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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- 2. fax:**  
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. email:**  
[program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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