CNP Spring Review

"You don't have to cook fancy or complicated masterpieces—just good food from fresh ingredients."
— Julia Child

Welcome to a new school year!

We are excited for the new adventures we'll pursue this year! Our team is continuing strong with Kim Loveland, Dana Adams, Nicole Vance, Ellen Timmins, Matt Anderson, and Brita Ball. Recently Nate Taylor left our office to complete his master's degree at USU. We'll hire a new specialist this fall.

We had many successful training sessions this summer regarding the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act, and specifically discussing the certification process to receive the additional six cent reimbursement. All SFAs should have received a flash drive and portfolio to organize documents. View the certification documents at http://schools.utah.gov/cnp/National-School-Lunch-Program/6Cent.aspx.

On July 12, 2012 a memo was sent out concerning foods of minimal nutritional value (FMNV). Review this memo with your administration to ensure they understand the new policy. The policy states, "Starting school year 2012-13, if a violation is found, none of the lunches served at that school during the review period will be reimbursable." Watch your e-mail for important updates and contact our office if you have questions.

Thank you for all you do in providing Utah students access to safe, nutritious and balanced meals!

HUSSC Announcements

We have a shout-out for some new HealthierUS schools that met the challenge at the tail end of the 2011-2012 school year. Before making updates to meet the new meal pattern, these schools met the criteria set for the school lunch menu, average daily participation, and production records, as well as providing nutrition education and physical education in the classroom.

Congratulations to these schools for receiving their awards!

🖉 The silver level was awarded to one school in Park City.

🖉 The bronze award has been given to 11 schools in Cache County, 4 schools in Canyons District, and Entheos Academy.

Schools can still apply with the new meal pattern materials online at http://www.teamnutrition.usda.gov/healthierus/index.html.

Application/Verification Reminders

Are you experiencing application overload? Rest assured, you are not alone! Each year in Utah, thousands of free/reduced price meal applications are processed, providing students in need with access to delicious, well balanced, low- or no-cost meals. To be sure the year is started off right, here are a few application and verification reminders.

Application Reminders

· Use the 2012-13 application and income eligibility guidelines.

· Make apps **easily** accessible—no one should have to ask for one.

· Staff involved in accepting/processing apps must be aware of where to get application materials in various languages.

· Process applications according to regulation. Use this cheat sheet for help.

· If accepting online apps, ensure non-required information does not inhibit submission.

Verification Reminders

· No need to wait until October 1 to begin verification—start as early as you'd like!

· To determine number of apps to verify, complete the Verification Summary in CNPweb according to number of apps on file as of October 1, 2012.

· Eligibility Manual pages 65-84 explains every required step of verification.

· Must be complete by November 15, 2012.

USOE's New Sharing Library!

With all of the changes coming in the new year, our office believes that the sharing of ideas and best practices is more important than ever. Our office strives to include networking, spotlights and sharing opportunities at all of our annual trainings and conferences, but sometimes after the conferences these images and ideas fade from memory and are no longer easily accessible. They are stored in a file somewhere on someone's hard drive or buried in a website, never to be seen again.

To address this issue we are creating a place on our website to post ideas and best practices by topic. We will be relying on the items that you send us, as well as those things that we observe during visits and reviews. So let your specialist know about the things that you are doing at your school or district, even if you feel like it is probably the same thing that everyone is doing. We are also interested in proven ideas that work. Directors and staff are often working on different aspects of their programs at different times, and a library of good ideas may be useful to someone starting or looking to improve a food program. We will be sending out a link when the site is up and running.

Winter Conference

Starting to feel a little nip in the air? You know what that means—time to start thinking about Winter Conference! This year's conference will be January 28-31 at the Courtyard by Marriott in St. George. Save the date and get ready for delicious food, fun activities, entertaining speakers, warm winter weather, and great times with the USOE staff.

We are in the planning phases, and are looking to you for help. If you have topics you would like covered, know of captivating speakers, or would like to help plan, please contact your specialist. We look forward to seeing you there!

Direct Certification

At last spring's business meeting, Brian Gardner walked through the new process for Direct Certification. In July, we rolled out the new product. Liz Dodge from Cache told us, "It worked so fast, I processed the list three times to make sure the product was matching."

Many of you learned that the formats for the names and dates have to be set up *exactly* as directed in the user manual. There were some problems when zeros were eliminated from birthdates, because the product only matches dates in the MM/DD/YYYY format. Be sure to save a copy of the matched list for your files (as the system does not retain a record of the matches), and to perform matching at least three times each school year.

If you have not tried "Certify Individual" yet, you'll find it helpful for looking up individual names. This program uses Soundex software to find names that are similar but are not spelled the same as the name entered by the district/school. It also allows entry of parent names, addresses and zip codes in order to help find all eligible students. When using this part of the software, be sure to save the district/school copy of the matches (the software allows easy download of all matched records). We hope you'll find the new product easy to use!

Summer Summary

A big THANKS to all our summer sponsors who have continued to help feed children in the community! Many sponsors operated successful new sites this year.

Preliminary numbers show that there has been an increase in both breakfast and lunch participation, and we are excited to see the final numbers. It appears that the word is getting out about the program.

Just a reminder that new meal pattern regulations will take effect in both the SSO and the SFSP at the start of 2013 summer operations.

FNS will be issuing guidance to help schools properly implement the meal pattern. The State Office will also be offering trainings.

See you next summer!

Six Steps for Six ¢ents

1. Plan menus.

2. Complete USDA Worksheets for each menu.

3. Complete attestation statement.

4. Mail copies of menus, USDA Worksheets, and attestation statement to the USOE.

5. USOE reviews certification documents (25% of SFAs certified will receive a validation review).

6. Certified schools receive an additional six cents per meal with reimbursement claims.

Six cents adds up! 100 lunches multiplied by $0.06 equals $6.00. $6.00 multiplied by 100 serving days equals $1,080!

For specific questions regarding Six Cent Certification, contact your specialist. Six Cent resources are located on our website at http://schools.utah.gov/cnp/National-School-Lunch-Program/6Cent.aspx.

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