

Michigan Department of Education
School Nutrition Training and Programs

NEWS AND NOTES

APRIL 2009

Food Assistance Program (FAP) and Family Independence Program (FIP) Case Numbers

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has started the transition to a new computer system called *Bridges*. FAP (formerly Food Stamp Program) and FIP case numbers will change. The new case numbers in *Bridges* will not contain alpha characters, but only contain nine numbers. Participants will receive correspondence which will have their new case number. It is anticipated that by the start of School Year 2009-10 all counties will have the new system in place. We encourage all sponsors that use electronic application approval systems to notify your software providers of these changes. We will continue to keep you updated.

To read more about *Bridges*, go to:

<http://www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,1607,7-124-5453-196687--,00.html>.

Cooks for Kids: Healthy Cooking Across America

Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) was recently highlighted in an episode of the National Food Service Management Institute's satellite training series *Cooks for Kids: Healthy Cooking Across America*. In the episode, Kristen Misiak, Food Service Director, discussed how a Farm to School Program had been implemented in her district. Great Job Kristen!!!

To view the *Cooks for Kids: Midwest Cuisine*, go to:

<http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/nfsmi/Education/Satellite/CFK/season2.html>.

USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) School Breakfast Webinar

The School Breakfast Webinar is now available for viewing on the FNS Expanding Your School Breakfast Program web page.

This webinar includes an introduction to the FNS Expanding Your School Breakfast Program website, as well as two guest speakers who have shared success stories from Denver, Colorado, and the state of Wisconsin.

The following link takes you to the Expanding Your School Breakfast Program site. Click on the link that reads "School Breakfast Webinar" at the bottom of the page.

To view the School Breakfast Webinar, go to:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/breakfast/expansion/default.htm>.

Applying for the 2009 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

The 2009 SFSP application is now available through the Child Nutrition Application Program (CNAP). The deadline for the SFSP application on CNAP and all required documentation is Friday, May 1, 2009.

To read more about the SFSP, go to: www.michigan.gov/sfsp.

To apply through the CNAP, go to: www.michigan.gov/meis.

Accommodating Special Dietary Needs in School Lunch

Accommodating Special Dietary Needs in School Lunch, a professional development seminar offered by the Industry Committee of the School Nutrition Association of Michigan, is scheduled for Friday, May 1, 2009. The event will be held at the Birmingham Conference Center, Birmingham, Michigan, from 8:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

The agenda of the seminar includes: Managing Allergies in Schools, Accommodating Special Dietary Needs in School Lunch, What's New with the Labeling Laws, and a panel presentation consisting of school food service directors and a parent.

For more information about the seminar and registration, go to: <http://www.michigansna.org/>. Registration closes April 23, 2009.

Play Your Way to a Healthier School Environment

The Michigan Department of Education is "recruiting" schools to apply for the Michigan Team Nutrition Youth Wellness Initiative Mini-Grant.

Exciting Grant Activities Include:

- Attending a Team Kick Off Day at Ford Field on September 22, 2009.
- Putting into action the *PlayBook for a Healthier School Environment* toolkit.

Fifty competitive grants will be made available to schools that:

- Participate in the USDA National School Lunch Program.
- Include at least one of the following grade levels 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8.

The grant submission deadline is April 20, 2009.

The detailed grant announcement and application instructions can be found, under the What's New section, at: <http://www.michigan.gov/mde-grants>.