

From: Bushong, Linda (MDE) **On Behalf Of** Leikert, Howard J (MDE)
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To: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Subject: Tuesday News from MDE 120611

After what ended up being a long week in Williamsburg, Virginia, I am back in the office. I will start with my brief report on the State Agency conference that I attended:

- 1) State Agency Conference – While the release of the new meal pattern should happen within the next month or two, there is really nothing new to report. The closest anyone came to telling us what the new meal pattern will look like is that schools following the HealthierUS School Challenge should “be in good shape” but they did not get any more specific than that – for example, portion sizes, offer versus serve, etc. Along with the new meal pattern, the other main topic discussed was the actual implementation of the new meal pattern and how schools will get the additional 6 cents per meal. Schools will need to be “certified” to get the additional 6 cents but what that will entail is still uncertain.
- 2) Michigan Nutrition Standards Toolkit - As you are taking steps toward improving the health of students and the nutrition environment in your school, another resource is now available to you. This toolkit will provide you with the resources you will need to implement the *Michigan Nutrition Standards*. The toolkit is for everyone involved in providing a healthy school environment to students: teachers, administrators, parents, school nutrition professionals, counselors, social workers, school nurses, community members, and more. You can access the complete toolkit and webcasts explaining the use of the toolkit by clicking on [Michigan Nutrition Standards Toolkit](#). A hard copy will be sent to all public school food service directors.
- 3) Make Fuel Up to Play 60 Work For Your School Nutrition Program - A new Fuel Up to Play 60 Toolkit created especially for School Nutrition Professionals is now available. The toolkit can help YOU:
 - Meet criteria for the HealthierUS School Challenge awards.
 - Increase participation in breakfast and lunch programs.
 - Obtain funding for equipment like smoothie machines and fitness gear.
 - Build strong relationships with students, physical education teachers, and principals.
 - Get positive media attention for nutrition changes and improvements.
 - Earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for the School Nutrition Association (SNA) credentialing and certification. Get in the Game! Download the New Fuel Up to Play 60 Toolkit today at www.schoolnutrition.org/FuelUpToPlay60.
- 4) Freebie Alert - Are you currently putting milk out on a counter or in a crate? Students like their milk nice and cold. The United Dairy Industry of Michigan has a limited number of large, wheeled freezer panel barrels available free of

charge on a first-come, first-serve basis. Contact Deanne Kelleher, Manager of Foodservice Programs, at 1-800-241-6455 ext. 230 or dkelleher@udim.org for more information.

- 5) Fresh Produce Pilot Program – The informational sheet for the Fresh Produce Pilot Program being conducted in Florida and Michigan has been updated at the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) website. Details regarding the pilot are still being worked out by AMS and the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

The link to this sheet is:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5095826>.

That's it for this week.

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