

From: Bushong, Linda (MDE) **On Behalf Of** Leikert, Howard J (MDE)
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2013 12:49 PM
To: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Subject: Weekly News from MDE 010813

Holidays are officially behind us now, so back to work! Here is some new information I hope you find helpful:

- 1) Summer Conference Survey - The School Nutrition Programs Unit, Michigan Department of Education (MDE), is planning training to be held in 2013. One of the training events we are considering is a multi-day conference specifically developed for school food service directors. While we are still in the pre-planning stage, we would like to have your input before setting the dates, selecting a location, and finalizing the topics for the conference sessions. In order for us to plan a conference that more closely meets your needs, we would appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey. Please post any comments in the final comment box. Thank you. The survey can be found at <https://www.research.net/s/ZT6W8FF>.
- 2) Peanut Free – Here is a link to an article on whether or not schools should adopt a peanut free environment at their schools. Neither MDE or I are advocating for either case, I just know this is an issue at many districts. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sz-berg/food-allergies-an-intervi_b_1945753.html. Use the information as you choose.
- 3) Paid Lunch Equity – USDA has issued a new Policy Memo announcing the Paid Lunch Equity program for this coming year but has not released the new spreadsheet that comes along with it. The new target price for the coming school year will be \$2.59, up 8 cents from last year. Attached is the new memo and I will let you know as soon as we get the new Excel spreadsheet tool.
- 4) LEARS Report - The Local Educational Agency Review System Verification Summary Report (LEARS) will open and be available by next week (likely mid-week). Please note the deadline for completing the LEARS report has changed, the report is due on February 15, 2013. The web based LEARS Verification Summary Report will be found at www.michigan.gov/meis. Scroll down to Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) and click on LEARS-Verification Summary Report. The data you need to complete the LEARS report are from the outcome of the verification activities you completed in November, 2012. Attached are further details on completing this report.
- 5) Summer Food Service Program Training 2013 - SAVE THE DATE(S)!!!! This year's training schedule is sure to be grueling, but if that means reaching more sponsors and as a result reaching more kids, then it's never too early to start planning for Summer 2013. This year's training dates and locations are as follows:

- Tuesday February 26, 2013 – Wayne RESA
- Wednesday February 27, 2013 – Grand Rapids Public Schools
- Wednesday March 6, 2013 – Grand Rapids Public Schools
- Thursday March 7, 2013 – Wayne RESA
- Monday March 11, 2013 – Traverse Bay ISD
- Wednesday March 13, 2013 – Delta-Schoolcraft ISD, Escanaba
- Wednesday March 20, 2013 – MDE, Lansing (CAMPS ONLY)
- Tuesday March 26, 2013 – MDE, Lansing (ALL)
- Thursday March 28, 2013 – MDE, Lansing (ALL)

Registration information will follow soon. If you have questions, feel free to contact Bryan Van Dorn at 517-373-0107 or vandornb1@michigan.gov.

We will have more info for you next week.

Howard Leikert, MBA, SNS

Supervisor
School Nutrition Programs
Michigan Department of Education
517-373-3892
517-373-4022 Fax

Start the new year right by renewing your Michigan educator license today!

MDE's online system is accessible for renewing licenses expiring June 30, 2013. It's quick and convenient.

Go to: www.michigan.gov/moecs



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

DATE: January 2, 2013

MEMO CODE: SP 19 - 2013

SUBJECT: Paid Lunch Equity: School Year (SY) 2013-2014 Calculations

TO: Regional Directors
Special Nutrition Programs
All Regions

State Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All States

The interim rule entitled, “National School Lunch Program: School Food Service Account Revenue Amendments Related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010” requires school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program to ensure sufficient funds are provided to the nonprofit school food service account for meals served to students not eligible for free or reduced price meals. There are two ways to meet this requirement: either through the prices charged for “paid” meals or through other non-Federal sources provided to the nonprofit school food service account.

Annual Review of Paid Lunch Revenue

SFAs must annually review their paid lunch revenue to assure compliance with the paid lunch equity requirement. When the average paid lunch price is less than the difference between the free and paid Federal reimbursement rates, the SFA must determine how they will meet the requirement—by increasing their average paid lunch price or providing funds from non-Federal sources.

Those SFAs that choose to increase the average paid lunch price must increase the average paid lunch price by a factor of two percent plus the annual inflation rate. The inflation factor is based on the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI). The reimbursement rates are adjusted using the CPI for the 12-month period of May of the previous year to May of the current year. Due to the timing of calculating and issuing the reimbursement rates, the paid lunch equity calculations are based on the inflation factor used for the previous SY’s reimbursement rates. Therefore, the inflation factors used by SFAs to calculate their paid lunch equity requirements will change from year to year.

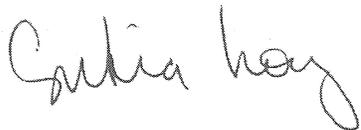
For SY 2013-2014

For SY 2013-2014, SFAs must use SY 2012-2013 Federal reimbursement rates and the related inflation factor when calculating paid lunch requirements. The Federal reimbursement rates and inflation factor were issued in a July 24, 2012, Federal Register Notice (77 FR 142). The Notice announced an increase in the reimbursement rate for SY 2012-13 and provided the inflation rate of 2.93 percent for the increase in rates between SY 2011-2012 and SY 2012-2013.

Therefore, for SY 2013-2014, SFAs which, on average, charged less than **\$2.59** for paid lunches in SY 2012-2013 are required to adjust their average price or provide additional non-Federal funds to the non-profit school food service account. The amount of the per meal increase will be calculated using 2 percent plus 2.93 percent (SY 2012-13 inflation rate), or **4.93** percent.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) will issue an updated version of the PLE tool soon which will include the new reimbursement and inflation rates and account for, as applicable, crediting any amount SFAs increased paid lunch prices above the required level. The PLE tool will also address any shortfall in meeting the PLE requirement and make the appropriate adjustments based on the information that SFAs input from their records. SFAs should also refer to memo SP 39-2011(Revised) for more guidance on making PLE calculations.

State agencies are reminded to distribute this memo to program operators immediately. SFAs should contact their State agencies for additional information. State agencies may direct any questions concerning this guidance to the appropriate Food and Nutrition Service Regional Office.



Cynthia Long
Director
Child Nutrition Division

**Michigan Department of Education
School Nutrition Programs**

**Local Educational Agency Review System
Verification Summary Report**

The Local Educational Agency Review System Verification Summary Report (LEARS) will open the week of January 14, 2013. **Please note the deadline for completing the LEARS report has changed, the report is due on February 15, 2013.**

The web-based Local Educational Agency Review System (LEARS) Verification Summary Report is available at www.michigan.gov/meis. Scroll down to Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) and click on LEARS-Verification Summary Report. The data you need to complete the LEARS report are from the outcome of the verification activities you completed in November, 2012.

Important Reminders about the LEARS report: Part I, Question 4 has been modified.

Question 4-0, Column A:

This area has been prepopulated with information about all students eligible for free meals via Direct Certification as of October 31, 2012. **You will not be able to change this number.**

Question 4-1, Column A:

This area is the number of students approved as FREE ELIGIBLE who are not subject to verification (directly certified, homeless liaison list, income-eligible Head Start, Even Start, residential students in RCCIs, non-applicants approved by local officials).

The number you record in Question 4-1, Column A can be greater than or less than the number in Question 4-0, Column A. This may include students such as:

- children that are directly certified and not on the list
- foster children
- runaway and homeless children

Question 4-1, Column A:

There is a *new* section for LEAs participating in the *Community Eligibility Option*:

LEAs that are participating in Community Eligibility Option (CEO) will have additional sections in **Question 4-1, Column A**. These sections will **only** appear for districts with at least one CEO building.

- LEAs with some buildings participating in CEO record the numbers in both sections; the ***Students in Non-CEO Sites*** and the ***Students in CEO Sites***.
- If all schools in the LEA participate in CEO the number is recorded in the ***Students in CEO Sites*** section.

4-1. # approved as FREE ELIGIBLE who are not subject to verification (directly certified, homeless liaison list, income-eligible Head start, Even start, residential students in RCCIs, non-applicants approved by local officials)		
Students in Non-CEO Sites	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Students in CEO Sites	<input type="text" value="0"/>	

If the LEA **does not** participate in the Community Eligibility Option, Question 4, Column A will be the same as in previous years.

4-0. # Directly Certified	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
4-1. # approved as FREE ELIGIBLE who are not subject to verification (directly certified, homeless liaison list, income-eligible Head start, Even start, residential students in RCCIs, non-applicants approved by local officials)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	

If you have any additional questions, please refer to the Food Service Administrative Policy No. 5 School Year 2012-2013 Verification of Eligibility for School Meals at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/5_Verification_of_Eligibility_for_Sch_Meals_399229_7.pdf, call 517-373-3347, or e-mail MDE-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov.