

Howard's News From MDE

January 31, 2018



Time to pass on some timely information. Here it is:

Can you Help Hungry Children this Summer?

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced in a [News Releaseⁱ](#) that more partners are needed to help feed hungry children in this year's statewide *Meet Up and Eat Up™* Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Our goal is for all children to have access to SFSP from the day school gets out until the day school begins in the fall – will you be someone to help us reach our goal?

Counting Instructional Time When Lunch is Served

Would you like to feed children on half days? Do you worry about kids going home without lunch? MDE released a [memorandumⁱⁱ](#) to address the need for students to have access to lunch on partial instructional days during the school year, and how congregate meal time during partial instructional days may be counted as instructional time under certain circumstances.

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs Mobile App

Just released! The [Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs \(FBG\) Mobile Appⁱⁱⁱ](#) is the essential resource for food yield information for all Child Nutrition Programs (CNP). The FBG assists CNP operators, food manufacturers, and other stakeholders with:

- Purchasing the correct amounts of foods for Child Nutrition meal programs.
- Determining the contribution that each food makes toward meal pattern requirements.

The FBG has gone digital to provide menu planning features at your fingertips!

- Easily search and navigate food yields for foods typically served in CNP settings.
- Compare food yields to determine the best food to purchase.
- Create favorite foods lists!
 - Stay tuned for the ability to save favorite foods lists and access previously saved lists of favorite foods.
- Email and print search results, comparisons, and favorites.
- The FBG Mobile App includes access to narrative content which provides:
 - CN Program-specific information for meeting meal pattern requirements.
 - Helpful information related to food purchasing and how to utilize food yield information in the FBG.

- Additional resources related to meal pattern requirements and menu planning for CNPs.
- The FBG Mobile App is currently available in the Apple App store.
- Stay tuned for:
 - Release in the Google Play store.

Shelby Public Schools

See the attached article regarding Mary Rose Vanas (article available upon request by email to bushongl@michigan.gov), Food Service Director for Shelby Public Schools. Great job Mary Rose! Do you have a story to share? Send it to us!

School Meals Overview Training (SMOT) – Registration Open for both August 2018 Trainings

As noted in a previous Howard's News from MDE, the March SMOT is completely sold out with many on the waiting list. We've decided to open up registration early for the two August SMOTs so those of you who want to attend the next available SMOT training have the opportunity to register early and secure a spot. Important note: **If registering for the Escanaba training site, it is highly recommended you make your hotel reservation as soon as possible.** This training falls during the week of the UP State Fair, which is held in Escanaba. See the registration links below:

Escanaba

[Bay de Noc Community College - August 14-16, 2018^{iv}](#)

Mt. Pleasant

[Mid Michigan Community College - August 21-23, 2018^v](#)

Tuesday at 2 Teleconference

Our SNP team has again put together another series of topics for 2018. One Tuesday each month, we will host a teleconference at 2:00 p.m. that will last approximately 30 to 45 minutes. Each teleconference is designed to provide quick updates on the "latest and greatest" information on a designated topic for that month with the opportunity for participants to ask questions. Our next Tuesday at 2 Teleconference topic will be Meal Counting and Claiming on February 20, 2018. To join the call, [pre-registration is required](#).^{vi} With your registration, you will be sent the conference call number and access code. Please take advantage of this opportunity and join us in getting your Meal Counting and Claiming questions answered!

Targeted Training

The staff of MDE's School Nutrition Programs unit is pleased to announce a new, hands-on, activity-based workshop for food service personnel titled "Targeted Training." This workshop is targeted to several specific areas: menu development, recipes and labels, production records, meal component tool, application processing, direct certification, and verification. The workshop

will provide active sessions where food service personnel can interact with MDE staff to resolve any issues that would result in findings during an Administrative Review.

The workshop format consists of a three-hour morning and three-hour afternoon workshop; MDE is allowing flexibility in the sessions to include additional information, if requested. There is no cost for the workshop and participants are welcome to come one or both days. Note: This training is not a replacement for the three-day School Meals Overview Training (SMOT).

Here are the dates and locations for 2018 Targeted Trainings. Stay tuned - registration will be announced at a later date, however MDE wanted you to be aware of these dates for your planning purposes:

- Thursday, June 21 – Kent ISD (Grand Rapids) Note: one day only – follows SNP June Conference
- Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 2 and 3 – Kalamazoo RESA (Portage)
- Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 9 and 10 – Huron ISD (Bad Axe)
- Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 17 and 18 – University Center (Gaylord)

School Nutrition Programs
Office of Health and Nutrition Services
517-373-3347
www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition

Visit the new Michigan Parent Dashboard for School Transparency
Your Window to Important School Information and Facts

Learn more at: <http://www.MISchoolData.org/ParentDashboard>



ⁱhttps://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIMDE/2018/01/25/file_attachments/948639/SFSP%2Bpress%2Brelease%2B2018.pdf

ⁱⁱhttp://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Instruction_Time_Lunch_612071_7.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs>

^{iv} <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/school-meals-overview-training-smot-escanaba-august-14-16-2018-registration-42461486449>

^v <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/school-meals-overview-training-smot-mtpleasant-august-21-23-2018-registration-42462809406>

^{vi} <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tuesday-at-2-meal-counting-and-claiming-registration-41077165909>