

Howard's News From MDE

February 15, 2018



Hope you had a Happy Valentine's Day. Following is the latest from us here at MDE:

Learning Summit

Learning Summit - Join the United Dairy of Michigan (UDIM) for the second [Michigan Learning Connection Summitⁱ](#) to explore how we can use current science linking physical activity, nutrition, breakfast, and learning to partner with schools to enhance children's health and readiness to learn. Hear from Michigan schools that have made that connection and how they were able to overcome challenges to make it happen. Enjoy recess before lunch down on the field with Lions Legend Jason Hanson.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Newsletters

The new format of the SFSP Newsletters is here, and the [first issueⁱⁱ](#) was just released. Content will include fun and useful information for new and long-time SFSP sponsors and sites.

Snow Days Without Breakfast

We know this is a bit last minute, but we were just given permission to share the [Snow Dayⁱⁱⁱ's video](#). This video was produced by Kellogg (Corporation, not Foundation) and No Kid Hungry about a month ago focusing on a high school in Grand Rapids. With possible snow days, we thought it could be a powerful message to share through your networks via email and social media. Kellogg will follow the lead and share our posts. Let United Way or No Kid Hungry know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

School Meals Overview (SMOT) Training

Registration is now open for the two August SMOTs. See the registration links below.

- Important Note: If registering for the Escanaba site, it is highly recommended you make your hotel reservation as soon as possible. This training falls in the middle of the week of the UP State Fair, which is held in Escanaba.

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

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 2:00 Teleconference:

- Date: February 20, 2018
- Topic: Meal Counting and Claiming

To join the call, [pre-registration is required](#). 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!

Michigan Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Partners

The Michigan School Wellness Award aims to encourage schools statewide to create healthy school environments by establishing School Health Teams, completing the Healthy School Action Tools (HSAT) and implementing sustainable policy and environmental changes. The deadline to receive completed applications is midnight EST April 18, 2017. The application, along with more information about the award, can be found at swa.mihealthtools.org.^{vi}

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education, United Dairy Industry of Michigan, Action for Healthy Kids and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, will recognize schools making significant improvements to their school environments related to healthy eating, physical activity and tobacco-free lifestyles. Schools taking exemplary steps to improve the health of students and staff will be recognized this May (specific date to be determined) at a special award ceremony at the State Capitol.

We hope that many schools will take advantage of this opportunity to be recognized for making healthy improvements to their school environments. [SWA-FY18flyer.pdf](#)^{vii}

Chef Ann Foundation

Chef Ann Foundation - Get Schools Cooking is now accepting applications from districts to participate in a \$50,000 grant program. Selected districts will embark on a three-year transformation journey. Districts will prepare for an onsite assessment conducted by school food experts. The assessment will result in a comprehensive report that covers that key areas of: food, finances, facilities, human resources, and marketing. After the assessment, districts will create a strategic plan and an action plan. Along the way, districts are given the opportunity to apply for a \$50,000 systems improvement grant that will enable you to purchase the specific equipment you need in your district. The [application](#)^{viii} is due March 1, 2018. Eligible districts must serve at least 3,000 students, provide food at 4-30 school sites, are self-operating, and participate in the National School Lunch Program. If you have any questions, contact Chief Programs Officer Heidi Kessler at heidi@chefannfoundation.org or 945-651-8197.

Until next time....

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February is Career and Technical Education Month in Michigan

www.michigan.gov/octe

ⁱ <https://www.milkmeansmore.org/event/michigan-learning-connection-summit/>

ⁱⁱ http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_34491-459464--,00.html

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://vimeo.com/user12149070/review/241910605/2ebf2f27ea>

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- ^{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} <http://swa.mihealthtools.org/>
- ^{vii} https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIDHHS/2018/01/17/file_attachments/944056/SWA-FY18flyer.pdf
- ^{viii} <http://www.chefannfoundation.org/programs-and-grants/get-schools-cooking/>