

From: Bushong, Linda (MDE) **On Behalf Of** Leikert, Howard (MDE)
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:28 PM
To: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Subject: Weekly News from MDE 021914

My weekly (or maybe bi-monthly) news has been getting away a little bit from its original purpose. Wanted to just mention the latest guidance we have, maybe offer a tip or two from my days as an operator, advocate for FSDs whenever I can, etc. Lately, I think I have lost the focus. So I am going to try to go "back to the future" a little bit this week:

- 1) What Do Your Customers See – Received an email from a director that was having public relations problems. I told her a lot of things, but what I will share is I encouraged her to look at her operation through her customers' eyes (children and adults). Be as objective as you can. Especially when you have been at an account for a long time it is easy to not see things that should be addressed for a customer.
- 2) Building Healthy Communities (BHC) - BHC invites you to encourage elementary, middle and high schools to apply for the 2014 Building Healthy Communities program. Building Healthy Communities is an evidence-based, comprehensive initiative that fights childhood obesity by surrounding children and families with healthy eating and physical activity. Its wide-ranging approach includes:
 - Educating students through curriculum.
 - Providing a healthy, supportive environment that makes the healthy choice the easy choice.
 - Encouraging students to practice lessons learned in the classroom
 - Increasing access to physical activity opportunities.
 - Increasing access to healthy, nutrient-rich food and beverages.

During the 2014-2015 school year, Building Healthy Communities has multiple options for schools to consider.

- Elementary schools are welcome to apply for the elementary school program and the breakfast in the classroom grant.
- Middle schools are welcome to apply for the middle school program and the breakfast in the classroom grant.
- High schools are welcome to apply for the breakfast in the classroom grant.

Full eligibility information, program descriptions and application information are located at <http://www.bcbsm.com/index/about-us/why-choose-us/healthy-communities/grants-and-contributions.html>. Applications are due March 14, 2014. Building Healthy Communities is a partnership between Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Michigan Fitness Foundation, United Dairy

Industry of Michigan, University of Michigan, and Wayne State University Center for School Health.

- 3) Breakfast Participation Grant - Looking to increase your breakfast participation? Grants are available to help you with an alternative breakfast service. Sponsored by United Dairy Industry of Michigan and Blue Cross Blue Shield, fill out your application today at <http://school.fueluptoplay60.com/first-fuel-breakfast-grant>.
- 4) Grant Opportunity - The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is pleased to announce the availability of grant funds to support children's health through park and recreation out-of-school time programs. 2014 grants will focus on three main goals:
 - Increase the number of healthy meals children in low-income communities receive through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) during out-of-school times;
 - Provide evidence-based, age-appropriate nutrition literacy to children that create behavior change by teaching the importance of healthy eating; and
 - Implement nutrition and physical activity standards that increase access to healthier foods and increase opportunities for physical activity.

Attached is a sheet with full details on the grant and here is a link to the application for the grant <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1519136/NRPA-2014-Grant-Application>.

- 5) We Are Pedaling as Fast as We Can – I consider all of you customers of ours. But I need to ask a favor. Please be patient...While you are important to us and SNP prides itself on good customer service, please allow SNP staff time to return calls and respond to emails. Our dedicated group of review staff are out of the office conducting administrative reviews and will respond to a message typically within a couple business days. If you have specific questions regarding an administrative review and/or have been working with a specific staff member, please contact them directly. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.
- 6) 25 Years of Service - Don't Forget! March 1 is the deadline for nominating yourself or someone you know for the 25-Year Service Award! To nominate, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9XNZYVJ>.
- 7) School Meals Overview Training – This training will be held March 5 and 6, 2014, at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, East Lansing. The staff of the Michigan Department of Education's School Nutrition Programs unit is pleased to provide this important two-day conference for food service directors/personnel. This comprehensive conference is for food service directors/managers and will cover items the staff must know to be

incompliance with program requirements. http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Registration_Memo_-_March_5-6_2014_446480_7.pdf?20140211112024.

- 8) International School Meals Day - The attached flyer has a description along with resources to help you celebrate this day. It is being held on March 6, 2014 this year, during National School Breakfast Week. Schools can promote healthy eating to reflect the new school meal standards and smart snacks while incorporating nutrition education into classroom learning using many of the educational materials developed through Team Nutrition. Ideas for celebrating may also include: hosting seminars, workshops or events related to healthy eating; planning an International Menu Day; hosting food tasting sessions; engaging in cooking with an international theme; and visiting farms where students can see first-hand where and how food is grown and harvested.

New This Year: Schools and classrooms can connect with other schools within the US and around the world and share their ideas and thoughts about food and healthy eating through established online global education platforms, Skype in the Classroom such as <http://education.skype.com>, <https://education.skype.com/partners/164-international-school-meals-day>, and Schools Online at <http://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/>. These global education platforms allow students and teachers to experience learning and teaching beyond their classroom walls on International School Meals Day and throughout the year. It can also foster connections, relationships, and interactions with those outside students' natural comfort zones for fostering global citizenship. Many US teachers are already using Skype to enrich the teaching and learning experience. For more information, visit www.internationalschoolmealsday.com where materials from Team Nutrition, Healthy School Meals Resource System, and NFSMI are linked and shared globally.

- 9) National Summer Meals Sponsor Survey - Help us learn more about your summer meals program. Visit summermealssurvey.org and participate in the first national Summer Meals Sponsor Survey today.

We are partnering with the Food Research and Action Center ([FRAC](#)) and [Share Our Strength](#) to learn more about the schools and organizations sponsoring the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) through our online [Summer Meals Sponsor Survey](#). The survey covers the following topics:

- How you operate your program and what advice you have for others.
- What is working well for you and what is challenging.
- Your plans for serving summer meals in the future.
- And any reasons you may leave or have already left the program.

The survey results will be used to learn about sponsor experience nationally and what support and resources can be used to help you better serve kids across the country. Please take 15 to 20 minutes to complete this [survey](#) by **February 28, 2014**, to be included in the national results. You may receive the invitation to participate from multiple sources, but you only need to complete the survey once. Thanks for taking the time to share your experience and for all you do to feed kids while school is out!

- 10) SFSP Operational Trainings - Reminder that MDE is offering SFSP operational trainings in a variety of locations statewide throughout the month of March. The first session is in Lansing on March 7. New sponsors must attend a training session. If no one in your organization attended training in the past two years, you are encouraged to participate in training this year. Any new staff in key positions should also attend the SFSP training. See the attached training schedule for more information and to register.

That's it. Still a bit long so I will try to get the next one out sooner. Have a great week.

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"The MDE School Nutrition Programs team is committed to the success of child nutrition programs through training, support, and leadership by fostering partnerships to ensure the nutritional well-being of all students in Michigan."

NRPA 2014 Out-of-School Time Programs Grant Application

http://www.nrpa.org/fundraising-resources/?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=eml_nrpa_generic

Application Link: <http://www.surveymz.com/s3/1519136/NRPA-2014-Grant-Application>

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is pleased to announce the availability of grant funds to support children's health through park and recreation out-of-school time programs. 2014 grants will focus on three main goals:

1. Increase the number of healthy meals children in low-income communities receive through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) during out-of-school times;
2. Provide evidence-based, age-appropriate nutrition literacy to children that create behavior change by teaching the importance of healthy eating; and
3. Implement nutrition and physical activity standards that increase access to healthier foods and increase opportunities for physical activity.

Availability of Funding

One-year grants are available and are expected to range from \$25,000 to \$35,000. Additional in-kind nutrition literacy materials valued at \$10,000 will also be provided to each grantee.

Use of Funds

Grant funds will be designated for expenditures that help local park and recreation agencies achieve the stated goals of the program: increase healthy meals served to children; provide evidence-based nutrition literacy to children; and implement nutrition and physical activity standards. Examples of eligible expenses include:

- Staffing to support program implementation
- Marketing and promotions within the local community
- Supplies such as tables and chairs
- Food service equipment such as heating or refrigeration units
- Program transportation costs
- Other basic needs to create or expand access to out-of-school nutrition programs.

Funding cannot be used to purchase food. Additionally, NRPA will provide an evidence-based, nutrition literacy curriculum for all agencies to use and implement.

Eligibility

Local park and recreation agencies that serve or will serve meals through both the SFSP and the CACFP or partner with a sponsor of these programs to provide meals at their agency in 2014 are eligible to apply for funding.

Application Due Date

Applications are due at midnight ET on **Thursday March 6, 2014**. It is anticipated that NRPA will notify applicants by April 1, 2014.

Please ensure responses are recorded accurately. You can save your progress and continue at a later time by clicking the "Save and continue later" link at the top of the page. **Note: Only completed pages are saved** - please enter a draft answer for each question on the page if you plan to save and return to your work later. The application is available in PDF format to assist in preparation of responses. For a PDF copy [please click HERE](#).

Definitions

A site is defined as a public park, recreation/community center, or park-led program at another community site implementing an out-of-school-time enrichment program.

Out-of-school time is defined as before/afterschool and summer.

Questions

Contact Marla Collum at mcollum@nrpa.org or 703-858-2162 with any questions.



United States Department of Agriculture

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MEALS DAY

March 6, 2014

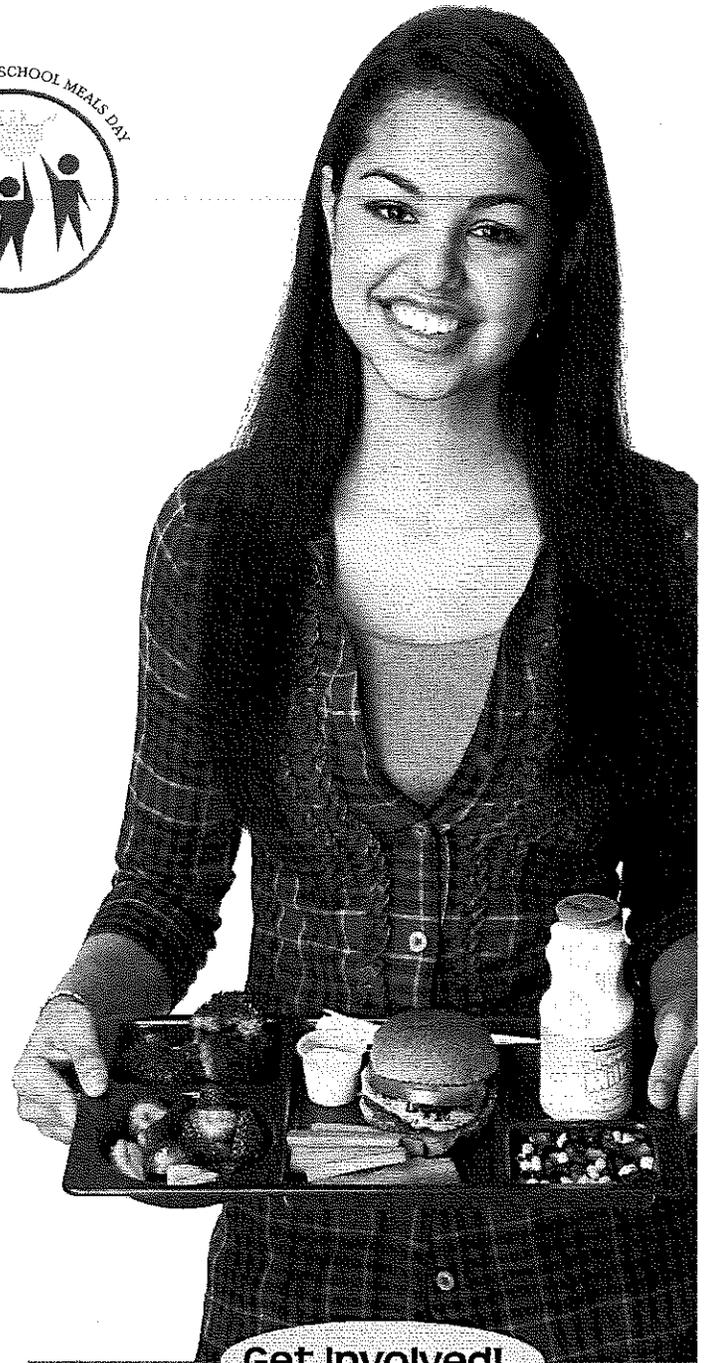


We invite schools, teachers, students, and child nutrition professionals to join in celebrating the 2014 International School Meals Day (ISMD) on March 6, 2014.

The purpose of the International School Meals Day is to raise awareness of the importance of food and nutrition in education and to share school feeding experiences from across the globe.

Schools around the world can celebrate ISMD by promoting healthy eating and learning, using the theme, Food Stories. Stories, like food, communicate the culture of peoples and their dreams for a healthier and better future. Food brings communities together. Schools and classrooms can connect with other schools and classrooms within their own country and around the world and share their food stories.

Good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle are as important to a child's overall success as the curriculum that our schools teach every day. USDA's School Breakfast Program is an opportunity to remind everyone how important it is that every child starts the school day with a nutritious breakfast. Schools can promote healthy eating to reflect the new school meal standards and smart snacks while incorporating nutrition education into classroom learning using many of the education materials USDA has developed through Team Nutrition at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/team-nutrition> and MyPlate at <http://www.choosemyplate.gov/>.



Get Connected!

Skype in the Classroom at:
www.education.skype.com and <https://education.skype.com/partners/164-international-school-meals-day>

Schools Online at:
<http://www.schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org>

Get Involved!

Follow ISMD:

www.internationalschoolmealsday.com

Twitter

<http://www.Twitter.com/intSchoolMeals>

Tumblr

<http://international-school-meals-day.tumblr.com/>

CONNECTING CLASSROOMS AND CULTURES FOR HEALTHY LIFESTYLES IN SCHOOLS AROUND THE WORLD

USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider