

From: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 10:01 AM
To: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Subject: Weekly News from MDE 120512

The following is sent on behalf of Howard Leikert, Supervisor, School Nutrition Programs, Office of School Support Services.

BIG NEWS!! In the meeting with USDA in Washington, it was announced that the MAXIMUM weekly total amounts for grains and proteins have been eliminated for the current school year. The minimums for the week still stay in effect along with the calorie guidelines. For now, this change is for the current school year only.

USDA will reassess the change for the following school year at a later date. For 6 cent certification, you can now report the higher grains/proteins as long as the calorie limit is not exceeded.

This guidance will NOT be official until the USDA policy memo comes out sometime within the next week or so. We expect the guidance to have more details as well but felt it was important to inform all of you of this important pending change.

Beyond the change itself, this is positive proof that USDA is listening and making appropriate changes. I realize it still does not address many other concerns with the new meal pattern, but it is a large step forward.

When the new policy memo is released, we will let everyone know. In the meantime, I think this is an important recognition from USDA on the challenges in the field. Details to follow!

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