

Food and Nutrition Services Update October 27th, 2021

School Meal Participation

Current average of daily meals served in each school:

Breakfast

NPS- 199

NIS- 173

NHS- 88

Lunch

NPS- 267

NIS- 340

NHS- 451

NSOI-8

Students are seeing more and more new menu items served in the cafeterias. As supply chain issues continue and typical items remain difficult to obtain, staff is coming up with creative ways to re-work menus using what we have on hand or what we know will be available. New scratch made entrees at the high school including lasagna, meatloaf, BBQ tacos and chili have been well received. These entrees or other scratch made menu items may soon be experimented at our intermediate and primary schools. The typical items that our younger students prefer, such as pizza, chicken rings and cheesy breadsticks, are consistently unavailable.

While the ordering process and deliveries from our vendors continue to be unpredictable, we work with them daily to ensure healthy, satisfying meals for our students. Selecting and securing alternate items require a great deal of additional time. All meals served under a USDA Child Nutrition Program must align with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and meet nutrition standards that limit the amount of calories, fat and sodium offered to students. These standards reflect the dietary needs of students and have an appropriate balance among food groups. Menus require specific meal components (fruit, vegetable, whole grains, protein and milk) to be offered in specific amounts (daily and weekly) in order to qualify as a reimbursable meal. Alternates or replacement items must also meet these regulations. Fortunately, flexibility provided by USDA waivers has lessened the administrative burden.

Pricing of Adult Meals

The charge for an adult meal should be at least the amount of reimbursement received plus the per meal value of both entitlement and bonus donated foods. On October 11th, districts

operating under the Seamless Summer Option received notification from the state and were provided with the following formulas:

Adult Meal Pricing Formula per FNS 782-5	Minimum Required Adult Meal Price for Breakfast	Minimum Required Adult Meal Price for Lunch
Reimbursement received for a free meal + per meal value of commodities	\$2.47 + .2600 = \$2.73	\$4.32 + .2600 = \$4.58

Suggested updated breakfast price: \$2.65 (from current \$2.50) Suggested updated lunch price: \$4.60 (from current \$3.75)

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Rizzo