- Lessons from the Field -

Supporting Student Health Through School Nutrition

OCTOBER 6, 2021
3:00 – 3:45 PM ET
To access information and archived materials from previous Lessons from the Field webinars, go to: https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/lessons-field-webinar-series
Logistics

Zoom Control Panel

Technical Issues

For assistance during the webinar, please contact Shoshana Rabinovsky at srabinovsky@air.org.

This webinar is being recorded and will be archived at the following location:
https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/events/webinar/lessons-field-supporting-student-health-through-school-nutrition

The content of this presentation does not necessarily represent the policy or views of the U.S. Department of Education, nor does it imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education.
1. What is your role?
- School administrator
- Building-level food service/nutrition staff
- Other school staff
- District-level food service/nutrition staff
- Other local education agency staff
- State educational agency staff
- Parent/Family member
- Community member
- Advocate
- Other

2. Which of the following do you want to better understand as you support student health through nutrition? (Select all that apply.)
- NSLP Seamless Summer Option
- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- Pandemic waivers and flexibilities
- Addressing supply chain challenges
- Other (Share in Q/A.)

3. How many students in your community have been quarantined at least once during the school year?
- More than half
- About half
- Less than half
- None
- I don’t know.
Agenda

1. Introduction and Logistics
2. Serving Meals in a Dynamic School Environment
3. Panel Discussion
4. Wrap Up & Closing
Speakers

Levi Bohanan
Special Assistant, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education.

Madeline Becker
Program Analyst, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Tina Namian
Branch Chief, School Meals Policy Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Neha Cramer
Guidance and Technical Assistance Lead, STLT Support Task Force, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Bios for the speakers are archived at the following location:
https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/events/webinar/lessons-field-supporting-student-health-through-school-nutrition
Serving Meals in a Dynamic School Environment

USDA Guidance and Flexibilities for School Year 2021-2022

Madeline Becker
Program Analyst
School Programs Branch
Policy and Program Development Division
USDA-FNS
Supporting School Nutrition Professionals
Nationwide Waivers and Flexibilities

- Allow schools to serve free meals to all students
- Increase meal reimbursements for schools using waivers
- Allow non-congregate meals, when needed
- Provide flexibility for meal times, when needed
- Allow parent/guardian meal pick-up, when needed
Targeted School Meal Pattern Flexibility

- Schools may request targeted flexibility for select requirements
- States must consider approval on a case-by-case basis (except sodium)
- May be used to address supply chain challenges

- Sodium
- Whole grain-rich
- Vegetable subgroups
- Milk variety
- Low-fat milk must be unflavored
- Age/grade groups
More on Supply Chain Challenges

• Schools may consider:
  • Conducting emergency noncompetitive procurement
  • Purchasing smaller quantities of products through local producers or small businesses

• States may allow schools to serve meals with an alternate form of fluid milk or without fluid milk during an emergency

• USDA is encouraging States not to take fiscal action for meal pattern violations resulting from COVID-19 supply chain disruptions
Unanticipated School Closures

- Summer Food Service Program sponsors may operate during the school year during unanticipated school closures.
- USDA waivers allow flexible meal service options during unanticipated school closures in school year 2021-2022.

Unanticipated school closures only occur when instruction is not provided to children. If a school is offering virtual or hybrid learning, the school is considered open.
Promising Practices

• Develop a meal service plan for different learning scenarios
• Consider partnering with community organizations, which can serve as Seamless Summer Option sites under a school food authority
• Communicate meal service and menu changes with families
USDA Resources

• Planning for a Dynamic School Environment
• School Year 2021-2022 Waivers and Policy Guidance
• Team Nutrition Back-to-School Resource Kit
Thank You!
Panel Discussion

LESSONS FROM THE FIELD
3. Select the topic(s) for which you feel additional information is needed. (Select all that apply.)

- Mental Health and Wellness for Faculty and Staff
- Mental Health for Students
- Allowable Uses of ARP Funds
- COVID-19 Prevention and Safe Operations Strategies
- Vaccinating Students, Faculty and Staff
- Re-engaging Students
- Early Childhood
- Higher Education
- Nutrition and Wellness
Feedback Form

HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/LFTFSESSION13
Thank You!

Should you have any questions, please contact us at NCSSLE@air.org or 800-258-8413. We are happy to help!

NCSSLE Website
https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov

Best Practices Clearinghouse
https://bestpracticesclearinghouse.ed.gov/