

December 2020

CANS NUTRITION BULLETIN

Child and Adult Nutrition Services
SD Department of Education

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The Grapevine—A Note From Cheriee

Greetings! We are speeding toward the end of another calendar year and I don't think I'm alone in thinking this was one humdinger of a year. To be honest, this year has been a blur and I'm not sure that I will be able to recall this year with many details, but I am pretty sure I will never forget this year!

As we enter the end of this year and start making plans for the upcoming year, I like to make time for reflection. Reflecting on the past year helps me remember all the challenges overcome, little victories, and even the mistakes made in the hopes of learning from and not repeating them.

This crazy year, well over 10 million meals were served (March to November) and that does not include snacks, milk program, or suppers. 147 SFAs and agencies are operating under one of the summer feeding flexibilities with over 380 feeding sites are providing meals to children. The schools and childcare programs that have not opted into a summer feeding option continue to operate with most using one or more of the flexibilities.

A phenomenal amount of work was done to create the food served to children across the state. Those meals were probably a lifeline for many families. The impact that you have in the life of your children is immeasurable and will likely ripple into the future for many. Even if you or I forget some of the details of this year, I am certain that many families/children will remember the kindness shared with them.

I don't often talk about the work that happens in the CANS office, but I cannot let this year go without mentioning the dedicated, caring, and hardworking CANS staff. Across the Child Nutrition Programs, our Program Specialists managed 82 waivers and about 160 additional pages of guidance issued by the USDA. Our Food Distribution Program staff dealt with dozens of last-minute order cancellations, changed orders, and juggling extra food deliveries. Our support staff managed to keep invoices and payments moving using whatever means necessary and kept the phone covered. There were many late nights and weekends worked, much stress, and maybe a few tears shed in trying to figure out how to make these changes work. Guidance materials, resources, and simplified waiver forms were created or borrowed from other states and shared. Staff responded to thousands of emails and phone calls, and even quickly became familiar with video calls. They worked with old and new partners, other state agency directors and staff, the DPS Emergency Operations Center, Tribal Education Board, and the Governor's office to make decisions and keep communication flowing.

And finally, the support and assistance provided by our USDA regional office was critical through this turbulent year. They provided critical guidance and understanding as they listened to our concerns, criticisms, and feedback. They were also instrumental in the approval of the waivers submitted by CANS that provided much needed flexibility for issues unique to South Dakota.

"Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us," American author Hal Borland. Happy holidays! Cheers to some hard-earned wisdom!

Be well!

~Cheriee Watterson

South Dakota Sponsor Spotlight!

Is your school or agency doing anything unique and interesting in your programs that you would like to share!? Do you want to be featured in our South Dakota Sponsor Spotlight segment!? Submit any pictures along with a summary of the exciting events that you're doing to DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us.

Joni Davis is from the Sioux Falls School District



Reminder:

If you have any staff that has served for 10+ years, let any of our staff know and we will send them a certificate of appreciation for their service.

Check in with CANS Bi-Monthly Conference Call

Check in with CANS is a bi-monthly conference call scheduled for the first Thursday of the months listed below at 2:30 PM CST. For SY20-21, we are moving the calls to every other month, to allow for our new Crash Course with CANS webinars.

This call is open to all agencies on the Child Nutrition Programs. We are planning to include information across all of our Child Nutrition Programs. Each call will start with a report from CANS with hot topics, new guidance or program clarifications, and reminders of upcoming dates. There will also be time scheduled during each call for you to ask questions. Call in number: 866-410-8397. Participant code: 7587919653#. Remember, school lunch staff can use these calls toward your annual Professional Standards training requirements!

SY2020-21 Check in with CANS Call Schedule

- Thursday, January 7
- Thursday, March 4
- Thursday, May 6

Pick It! Try It! Like It!



This months clues:

- 95% of these sold in the US are grown on the west coast- Washington, Oregon and northern California.
- They used to be called "butter fruit" because of their soft, butter-like texture.
- In ancient Greece, they were used as a natural remedy for nausea.
- They are one of the highest fiber fruits, helping you meet your daily requirement of 25-30 grams.

If you guessed, Lakota: tǎspáŋpǎestola; English: pear, then you are correct!

There are a variety of materials available including signs, lessons plans, recipes and a fact sheet for how you can preserve pears for future use at the website page: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/pear-pick-it-try-it-it-preserve-it>.



JOIN US EVERY OTHER THURSDAY FOR

Crash Course WITH CANS

Short (30 min) learning opportunities for schools and agencies operating the School Nutrition Programs, Child & Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program

SY2020-21 Webinar Topics*:

- | | | | |
|-------|---|------|---------------------------------|
| 9/17 | CACFP iCAN Application | 2/11 | School Breakfast Promotion |
| 10/1 | Gone Shopping: Procurement Plans for SNP, CACFP, SFSP | 2/18 | Fresh Fruit & Veg Program |
| 10/15 | Civil Rights for SNP, CACFP, SFSP | 3/18 | Farm to Table/Beef to School |
| 10/29 | Hey, That's Not What I Ordered! Monitoring Contracts | 4/1 | SNP NonProgram Food Costs |
| 11/12 | Planning for Summer Feeding | 4/15 | Community Eligibility Prov, SNP |
| 12/10 | Supper Programs in High Need Areas | 4/29 | SFSP Training |
| 1/14 | FDP Surveys: What They Are and Why?! | 5/13 | SSO Training |
| 1/28 | Just Sign Here: Contracts for Interagency, FSMC, & Vended Meals | 5/27 | FDP Year End Reporting |

*Changes to scheduled topics and dates may occur



Child & Adult Nutrition Services
(605)773-3413
DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us
<https://doe.sd.gov/cans/>

School Nutrition Program

Equipment Grants

Congratulations to the FY2020 Child and Adult Nutrition Services Equipment Assistance Grant award winners! We received grant applications requesting a total of over \$317,000. We were able to award nine schools a total of \$62,643. If you were not awarded this year, please reapply if we receive these funds in the future, as this is a great way to acquire new equipment for your kitchens. The awarded schools can be found on the CANS/SNP webpage under the Equipment Grants heading.

Congratulations to the award winners:

- Castlewood School District
- De Smet School District
- Faulkton School District
- Florence School District
- Kimball School District
- Lemmon School District
- Northwestern Area School District
- Rosholt School District
- Timber Lake School District

USDA Farm to School Grants in Native Communities

Are you interested in funding for your farm to school project in Indian country? [USDA Farm to School Grants](#) can support efforts to incorporate traditional food in school meals, build Native food systems, advance food sovereignty efforts, build school gardens, and more. For more information and to apply, visit the USDA Farm to School Grants webpage at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/farm-school-grant-program>.

Deadline to submit grant application is January 8, 2021.

FSMC Monitor Reminder Memo



Results from an audit performed by the Office of Inspector General found high risk situations in schools with Food Service Management Companies. (FSMCs in general – not specifically ones operating in South Dakota)

Because of these results, additional monitoring of FSMCs is required by USDA. This is not new and is in addition to on-site monitoring that may be required for an Agency who has contracted with an FSMC.

The FSMC monitoring form states that each site at which an FSMC operates a meal must be monitored **twice** each school year. Both completed forms are required in the FSMC contract renewal packet.

This is not a new requirement, just a reminder to complete the Monitoring Form twice this School Year. We intended to return the form with your contract approvals, but if your Agency needs one, please contact me and I will email a Word Document version. quanna.keyser@state.sd.us

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) Reminders

Schools approved for the FFVP are able to provide to-go snack offerings when providing to-go meals.

Parents/guardians are allowed to pick up the FFVP offering with an approved Parent/Guardian FFVP Pickup Waiver.

Schools approved for FFVP that are also participating in the Seamless Summer Option (meals to children at no charge) may provide the to-go FFVP offering may be provided to all children, rather than just the elementary students.

Verification

Hopefully, you have seen by now that you must conduct verification of free/reduced meal applications if you collected any for SY20-21. With that guidance from USDA, we will not move forward with trainings as well. The reporting deadline for verification has been extended to February 26, 2021 for SY20-21. However, we encourage you to conduct and complete the verification report as soon as possible. If you do not collect applications, you must still complete the verification report in iCAN.

CANS is preparing to host webinars specific to how to conduct and report results of verification activities. We will work through the Verification process and the Verification Collection Report, also known as the 742 form in two separate webinars.

The Verification Reporting webinar is scheduled for December 8 at 9:30am CST.

Click the link below to join both webinars.

[Join Skype Meeting](#) _ _

Call-in number is 866-410-8397. Conference ID is 7587919653#.

The PowerPoint slides will be posted on the website prior to both webinars. Please visit <https://doe.sd.gov/cans/snp.aspx> under the Trainings and Webinars heading. If you have trouble getting into Skype, you can follow along with the PowerPoint.

Please contact the CANS office at DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us, or call at 605-773-3413 with any questions.

Healthier School Communities 2020 Virtual Forum


Gain the insights you need to support your district at the free Healthier School Communities 2020 Virtual Forum on Dec 15th. National experts will join @AASApge and @genyouthorg for this timely update.

Topics for this 75-minute event will include:

- The ongoing impact of COVID-19 on schools.
- The growing face of pandemic-specific food insecurity.
- What to expect in 2021-22
- Best practices from school leaders.
- The critical role of storytelling in elevating your district's needs.

For more information visit: <https://cvent.me/87NBAR>

This event is **FREE**, but space is limited! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)



The Healthier School Communities
2020 Virtual Forum

SAFE, HEALTHY, NOURISHED: A NEW PLAYBOOK FOR SCHOOLS

Join this Insider's Discussion
for School Leaders
Dec 15 | 3 PM - 4:15 PM EST
[#HealthierSchoolCommunities](#)

Summer Food Service Program

SFSP Waiver Discussion from USDA FNS & Other SFSP Resources

USDA FNS released a video discussing the available COVID-19 waivers for the School Year 20-21. If you would like to get a good review on the waivers please watch the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPvmTJjnDgw>
The importance of SFSP programs in different communities are highlighted under these two fun videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TXQ1zIZ0k4>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_93W0U3E8U

They are very good resources for some new ideas for your SFSP program and could fill you with pride that you are part of this program impacting so many lives.

You could also use the "Yummy Curriculum" as part of your enrichment activity:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/serving-myplate-yummy-curriculum>

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Staying on top of Training Requirements

With the start of the new program year comes the reset of training. Please remember to continue to complete your required trainings throughout the year. You have until September 30, 2021 to complete training for the current program year, but I would not recommend saving it all to complete shortly before that date. All of the trainings that you would need to complete are on the CANS website under Child and Adult Community Food Program. Once you have completed the training don't forget you then have to complete and pass the associated quiz to receive credit for taking that training.

Reminder: Our office does not have the ability to recreate any certificates if you forget to save once you have completed the quiz. You will have to retake the quiz and earn another certificate.

Food Distribution Program

December Pre-Survey

The December Pre-Survey has been delayed. USDA has not released the School Year 21-22 Foods Available list that is used to create the Pre-Survey. What is the Pre-Survey?

The Pre-Survey is a list of USDA available products to order for the 21-22 School Year that South Dakota can bring into the state contracted warehouse.

Per federal regulation:

- 7 CFR 250.10 (a) the distributing agency must provide recipient agencies with the opportunity to submit input, on at least an annual basis, in determining the donated foods from the full list that are made available to them for ordering.

Your input is important. The Pre-Survey results are used to determine what products are on the Annual Survey that is released in February.



January DoD Fresh/FFAVORS Evaluation & Sweep

- In January, DoD Fresh/FFAVORS spending will be reviewed to make sure schools have spent at least five months of their Monthly Entitlement Usage. If your school has not spent the required amount; the undistributed 25% of your original request may be swept from your DoD Fresh/FFAVORS entitlement allocation and re-distributed to schools that are using their full DoD entitlement allowance. Each spending review will take COVID into consideration.
- Calculate spending in January by dividing Entitlement Usage by 5 months. Log into DoD Fresh at the [FFAVORS Login](#). Find the dollar amount used in 5 months by using the usage report.
- Log into iCAN and find your schools 20-21 DoD Fresh/FFAVORS Survey Request to find the amount requested for the year. Per USDA guidance, only 75% of school's original request was added to the DoD Fresh/FFAVORS site. If your school is spending, the additional 25% will be added.
- If you know your school will not be able to spend their additional 25%, contact Darcy Beougher in the CANS office as soon as possible.

Program Policy Memos

Some policies have multiple numbers. That means those apply to multiple programs.

Child & Adult Care Food Program

Current policies can be found at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/policy>.

School Nutrition Programs (SP Memos)

Policies that apply to school operation and administration can be found at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/policy>.

Summer Food Service Program

Policies can be found at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/policy>.

Food Distribution

Food Distribution policies can be found at https://www.fns.usda.gov/resources?f%5B0%5D=resource_type%3A160&f%5B1%5D=program%3A35

New COVID-19 Waivers

To find a current list of the waivers that South Dakota has opted in to, you can visit the [CANS webpage](#) under the "Announcements Regarding Coronavirus/COVID-19" heading. Here, you will find a chart that lists all of the current waivers South Dakota is operating under. Since the last nutrition bulletin, no new waivers have been released.

Contact CANS

For any questions, comments, or concerns

Email: DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us

Phone: (605) 773-3413

Fax: (605) 773-6846

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Professional Standards Reminder: Any learning or training you receive about any aspect of the School Nutrition Programs can be counted as training time towards the professional standards annual training requirement. Reading the bulletin each month does count towards training hours.

Please retain documentation to show what topics were trained. For example, agenda, topics, handbook, certificate, etc. And record training on a Tracking Tool – we suggest using the [SD Tracker Tool](#) posted on the CANS NSLP website.

To credit training hours for time spent reading the Nutrition Bulletin, you will need to keep track of the time you spent reading and determine the applicable training codes. Appropriate documentation for this would be a copy of the bulletin signed and dated with the amount of time written on it.