School Nutrition Association of Michigan

Legislative Update July 16th, 2020

Congratulations Carolyn!





Congratulations to Lori Adkins SNA Vice President!





Most Creative Idea Award Mary Rose Vanas



Secretary Perdue Visit

Sonny Perdue, Carolyn, Mary



Highlights

- USDA responded to our waiver requests within eleven days
- Supply Chain broken –
 farmers, transportation,
 manufacturers, distributors,
 schools
- 35.3 million food boxes invoiced in round one (May 15-June 30)
- 5.1 million food boxes invoiced in round two (July 1-August 31)
- Promises continued supporg

Call to Action!

- Dear
- Thank you for the continued foundation you have always provided for Child Nutrition Programs. We are once again asking for your support. We are facing more challenges within our programs which continue to threaten our sustainability of these programs at a time when they are needed the most. We know you are well aware of these obstacles, and the School Nutrition Association of Michigan wants to provide you with a list of new challenges as we feed children throughout the summer and into the school year.
- We continue to emphasize the essential waiver that still needs to be approved **Area Eligibility.** Given the tremendous challenges and uncertainty, this waiver would allow us to continue providing nutritious meals during the summer to all children without the restricting guidelines of limiting access to meal sites where they may be delivered.
- More families depend on school meals due to reduced income and unemployment. USDA must immediately extend these
 COVID-19 waivers through the end of the School Year 2020/2021. This extension will allow us to continue providing Universal Meals for all students.
- School Nutrition programs throughout the United States *continue to lose money while courageously feeding hungry children during COVID-19.* We are asking for needed funds required to ensure no child goes hungry because of our financial inability to provide for nutritious meals for all children.
- Schools are also considering vastly different learning models for the upcoming school year. Distance learning, reduced seating
 in cafeterias, grab & go meals, classroom delivery all require changes to menus and procedures and the purchasing of new
 equipment, technology and supplies, which will add to program costs for the school year 2020-2021.
- There are bills that currently need to be passed which ensure our continued ability to provide meals to all children. We know
 your support is there, and you will communicate this necessary information to other US Senators and Representatives throughout
 the nation.
- Thank you once again for prioritizing continued access for our nation's greatest resource **children** Sincerely,
- Carolyn Thomas, President, School Nutrition Association of Michigan
- Sara Simmerman, Legislative Chair, School Nutrition Association of Michigan
- Xavier Jarimillo, Legislative Co-Chair, School Nutrition Association of Michigan

Call to Action for Universal Meals

- NATIONAL CALL TO ACTION
- Good morning SNAM Members,
- We are asking all of you to contact your Congressional legislators in Washington DC immediately. Time is of the essence and we need everyone's help to garner support and communicate to our Congressional representatives how urgent the situation is for all of our School Nutrition Programs. It's important to realize that we have been told by our USDA Mid-East Regional Office that the President believes the county is open and everything is now back to normal. Therefore, the USDA is being told to not consider anymore waivers. Right now we must contact Senators Stabenow, Peters, and all our Congressional Representatives and ask for their support.
- We need Area Eligibility waived to provide all students school meals at no charge to guarantee they are nourished and ready to learn.
- We've provided the following steps to guide you through this process:
- Share personal stories with your legislator. It's easy, and here are some ideas: your emergency feeding meal statistics; what we've done for our children throughout this emergency; how thankful our families are; the importance of relieving the stress of food insecurity; how parents and children are receiving our meals; and most importantly we have witnessed the great need for our children to continue the same easy access to the nutritious meals that our programs provide.
- 2. Who's your legislator? It's right here! Click on this link and you will find out your state and federal legislators here: https://myreps.datamade.us/
- 3. Speak Up for School Nutrition Program Funding. Please <u>make your voice heard</u> and urge the U.S. Senate to pass \$3 billion in emergency funding for school nutrition programs!
- Attached is the letter that SNA sent on June the 4th to Secretary Perdue and other Capitol Hill leaders requesting <u>continuation of all waivers</u> and <u>Universal Meals</u> for the 2020-21 school year.
- This letter addresses all of our School Nutrition essential needs and also provides great background information you can share with your representatives.
- We really need you! And we are relying on you to pick up the torch and be part of our united voice! Please reach out if we can be of any assistance.

Jessica Fu, The Counter, Brooklyn NY 6/23/2020

- "School lunch as we know it is over. Here's how school nutrition directors are reinventing it for an uncertain year"
- 80% of schools offer drive-up or delivery meals
- Back to "normal" projected two ten years
- Meal times extra time required deliveries, etc
- Collecting lunch money overt identification
- Night school
- Added costs PPE Reduced revenue ala carte
- 67% schools projecting deficits
- Betti Wiggins, Nutrition Officer, Houston Independent School District – projecting \$20 million deficit

SNA National News Highlights

Chalkbeat National

- Tents rain Snow ???
- Deliver breakfast ahead of classes
- Deliver meals class by class
 staggered luncheons –
 more time to eat
- Food allergies?
- Will need future extensions

 regular operations will not exist for years

From the Salisbury Post, North Carolina

- State Waiver all students eat free "Win for all economic backrounds"
- Virtual Students Multiple Pick-up Sites
- Sealers hot & cold meals
- Tablet orders
- Breakfast carts
- Shelf Stable
- Creative pick up times

Let's Work Together....

Develop our own weekly communication With ideas, best practices etc

- Communication to Parents free meals are ending
- Virtual Learning we're still here for you pickups and deliveries
- Service Style ideas
- New labor definitions/postings
- CEP issues
- Nutritional downloads