

# School Nutrition News

A Newsletter from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division of Finance and Management

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Winter 2016

## Wisconsin School Meals Rock! Video Contest



Wisconsin Team Nutrition (WI TN) received over 40 entries for our student video contest. Students were invited to explain why their school meals rock. Congratulations to the winning team from Hartford Union High School and to the runner-up from Prairie View Elementary School (Holmen). These teams will receive a prize from the

School Nutrition Association of Wisconsin. In addition, three honorable mention videos were selected from Queen of the Apostles (Tomah), Dodgeland Elementary School, and Fond du Lac High School. Congratulations to all of the teams! Check out the winning videos on the [Wisconsin School Meals Rock! webpage](#).

## Goal Oriented Achievement Learning Skills (GOALS) Updates

Applications for the Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) GOALS *Certificate of Excellence* have been rolling in! We are currently reviewing applications, and we hope to award our first *Certificate of Excellence* very soon. We are pleased with the progress of the GOALS program as well as the high level of interest from school nutrition professionals all across the state.

If you are interested in earning a GOALS certificate or would like to learn more about the program and the benefits of earning a GOALS certificate, please visit the [GOALS webpage](#) on the DPI School Nutrition Team (SNT) website. More information on the application process can be found under [How to Apply](#).

Frequently asked questions pertaining to the GOALS process have been included in this newsletter on page three.



## To Buy or Not To Buy...American!

Compliance with the Buy American provision will be evaluated during your Administrative Review (AR). To assist schools in complying with this regulation, SNT developed a "Noncompliant Product List" form. Schools may use this document to track product(s) they purchase that do not comply with the Buy American provision. During our reviews, we found a few cases of undocumented noncompliance, including spices, peaches, and apples from Central and South American countries. While it is possible these products were not available from United States producers, no documentation was available to support these exceptions. We strongly encourage you keep an eye out for nondomestic products purchased from retailers and distributors. For more information on Buy American, please visit the SNT Procurement [webpage](#).

## Small Victories, Big Success

The fall Small Victories sessions highlighted "Food Waste: A Plan for Action." Training was an extension of previous United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Team Up for School Nutrition Success workshops, with directors working in small groups to develop action plans to address food waste in their schools. Other staff learned how their roles as school nutrition professionals impact the day-to-day school nutrition budget. Thank you to the host school food authorities (SFA), Elkhorn, Benton, Sparta, Drummond, D.C. Everest, and Random Lake. Over 250 participants attended the trainings and earned three training hours toward professional standards requirements. Watch for information on the next Small Victories sessions, covering recipe development in late spring 2017.

### Pop Quiz: CN Labels

The shape of a Child Nutrition (CN) label is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) Circle    B) Square    C) Triangle    D) Rectangle

What do you think? Turn to page seven for the answer!

## Training Team Update on Webcasts

Significant changes to school nutrition programs, including the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and the resulting USDA meal pattern requirements, make it critical for school nutrition staff to be adequately trained. School nutrition professionals must have the necessary skill set to not only provide students with nutritious meals, but also to have the business savvy required to operate a successful school nutrition program. We are continually updating and creating webcasts on all topics related to operating your school meal programs. Webcasts can be found on our [Training webpage](#) under SNT Webcasts.

For individuals working toward a GOALS *Certificate of Excellence*, we added the option of taking a short quiz and proving your attendance after participating in our recorded webcasts. You will be sent a confirmation email which defines the Professional Standards code, number of minutes of training, and training category for the GOALS certificate, if applicable. You may save these confirmation emails and submit to SNT when you are ready to be recognized for your expertise in the field of school nutrition.

## Breakfast in the Classroom

Breakfast in the classroom (BIC) has proven successful at all grade levels. BIC makes breakfast more accessible to all students, leading to increased participation, improved grades, and decreased disciplinary referrals. Are you interested in starting a BIC program but unsure how to garner support from your administration? If so, check out [two new resources](#) developed by WI TN. An introductory video showcases two Wisconsin schools, and a brochure provides information on how to make breakfast part of the school day. Answers to frequently asked questions are now available.

## Hungry for New Technology? Consider SNACS!

Are you operating your school nutrition programs without the use of software? Do you want a convenient way to process applications and track student eligibility? Are you looking for help with verification? Look no further than School Nutrition Accountability Software (SNACS), a free software for SFAs developed by SNT. If you are searching for a new software system for next school year and are currently operating your school nutrition programs without the use of software, consider SNACS! SNT wants to increase the number of SFAs using SNACS. The SNACS team will reach out to SFAs that currently do not use school nutrition software during the next several months to see if SNACS is the solution. For the latest information on SNACS, [sign up for email updates](#).



## Direct Certification and Title 1 Reporting Clarification

Direct Certification (DC) is a mandatory requirement for SFAs participating in the USDA child nutrition programs to determine meal eligibility. We understand this information is often useful when reporting for other purposes, such as Title 1 reporting. The following questions have been clarified by the USDA for schools not participating in any USDA child nutrition programs.

**Question (Q):** Can a district run DC for the entire student population, including students enrolled in schools not participating in any child nutrition programs? For example, the elementary and middle schools participate, but the high school does not.

**Answer (A):** Yes, it is allowable for the SFA to run DC matches for the entire student population.

**Q:** A public school district that participates in child nutrition programs has students that reside in their enrollment area but attend a private school. The private school does not participate in any child nutrition programs, therefore they do not have access to run DC on their own. Is it allowable for the public school district to run these students through DC for Title 1 reporting purposes, even though these students are not enrolled in the SFA?

**A:** No, only schools participating in a child nutrition program may have access to DC data and may only include students enrolled in their districts within the DC run. For Title I Purposes, section 1120(c)(1) of No Child Left Behind allows school districts to calculate the number of children who are from low-income families and attend private schools in several ways:

- Use the same measure of poverty – If a private school participates in a child nutrition program, then the private school may run DC data and share it with the district.
- Use comparable poverty data – A district may collaborate with the private school to administer a survey to families with children attending private schools or use comparable poverty data from a different source, such as tuition scholarship programs.
- Use proportionality – A district may apply the low-income percentage of each participating public school attendance area to the number of private school children who reside in that school attendance area.
- Use an equated measure – A local education agency (LEA) may determine a proportional relationship between two sources of data on public school children and apply that ratio to a known source of data on private school children.

Please reference [Section B-4 of the Title I Services to Eligible Private School Children Non-Regulatory Guidance October 17, 2003](#) for specific examples. For more information, contact the [Title I Consultant](#) assigned to the district.

# GOALS *Certificate of Excellence*: Questions & Answers

**Q:** What is GOALS?

**A:** GOALS is an acronym for Goal Oriented Achievement Learning Skills, a resource developed by DPI SNT as part of USDA's professional standards training grant. GOALS provides opportunities for Wisconsin school nutrition professionals to obtain training and resources that meet regulations for USDA Professional Standards while providing the opportunity to obtain a *GOALS Certificate of Excellence* signed by Wisconsin's state superintendent of schools.

**Q:** What if the training I complete includes more hours than the GOALS certificate requires? For example, if a Farm to School class counts as three training hours, but the certificate I am working toward requires two hours, can the extra hour count toward another training topic?

**A:** The short answer is no. The required training hours listed for each individual track (director, manager, staff) are the minimum requirements. Extra training may credit toward the required, annual professional standards training hours, but they do not credit as additional training hours for GOALS. The purpose of GOALS is to provide nutrition professionals with a well-rounded knowledge of the USDA school nutrition program requirements. The hope and expectation for the GOALS certificate holder is that he or she will continue to obtain training to enhance his or her knowledge beyond what is minimally required.

**Q:** I have a degree in nutrition. Do I still need to take all of the training to obtain a GOALS certificate?

**A:** Individuals with accredited training in a related area may have fewer requirements for a GOALS certificate. For example, a Registered Dietitian (RD) who submits transcripts from an accredited technical school may not have to complete Nutrition 101, since the transcript shows extensive training in nutrition. However, without work experience in school nutrition, he or she is still required to complete Meal Pattern, Child Nutrition Basics, and other training specific to USDA Child Nutrition Programs. Please refer to the Short Track for [Directors](#) or [Managers](#) for more information.

This also applies to individuals with several years of school nutrition experience without formal training in nutrition. In this case, documentation to show experience in the school nutrition field, such as a resume, would be required when applying for Short Track.

**Q:** Will previous training certificates count toward GOALS?

**A:** Training certificates obtained in specific subject matter during the past five years may count toward the GOALS certificate. You should track and submit the certificates with the GOALS application for review. Because the GOALS criteria is based on current USDA requirements for the Child Nutrition Programs, it is possible some previous training may not count toward GOALS.

**Q:** A training I already attended is not on the list. Does it count toward GOALS?

**A:** It depends. Training that is informative rather than subject based will not count toward GOALS. Training sessions such as Pre-Review Workshops, Great Beginnings Academy, and monthly *What's New with School Nutrition* webinars provide program updates and overviews rather than comprehensive training on specific subject matter. These trainings will count toward the annual USDA professional standards training requirements but will not count toward the certificate. DPI is working to ensure future trainings will include crediting information for GOALS.

**Q:** Do I have to attend face-to-face School Nutrition Skills Development Courses (SNSDC) to obtain the certificate or can I complete the requirement with an online equivalent?

**A:** Some face-to-face SNSDC training is required. The GOALS certificate is endorsed by the Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and face-to-face training provides the opportunity for an expanded learning experience that includes hands on activities, interaction with state agency staff, and opportunities to ask questions for clear guidance. Required training includes Child Nutrition Basics, The Whole Enchilada (meal pattern training), and the Free, Reduced and Verification Process (director level only). Go to the training requirements webpage to see which courses require face-to-face training.

**Q:** Have the requirements for GOALS changed?

**A:** No. The requirements for a GOALS certificate have not changed. You may notice updates to the online documents "GOALS Training Hour Requirements." For example, the section on financial management is updated to consolidate training hours into a single course rather than several smaller course requirements.

**Q:** I think I have all of the training required for GOALS. How do I receive my certificate?

**A:** To apply for the GOALS certificate, access the [online application](#) on the GOALS webpage, follow the instructions, and submit the materials to [GOALS@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:GOALS@dpi.wi.gov). Applications are processed in the order they are received. Please allow four to six weeks for processing. Certificates will be sent to the address listed in your school nutrition online contract.

**Q:** Is there a time limit for obtaining a GOALS certificate?

**A:** No. Obtaining adequate training hours to earn a GOALS certificate will generally take at least a year, but it may require several years depending on each individual training plan. The expectation for GOALS is to obtain the training hours required to have a comprehensive understanding of USDA Child Nutrition Programs. Trainings completed in the past five years and submitted as part of the application may expedite the process for some applicants.

**Q:** Once I receive a certificate as a staff member or manager, may I upgrade to a higher level?

**A:** Yes. If you obtain a staff member or manager level certificate and would like to continue training to reach a higher certificate level that is acceptable and encouraged.

# USDA New Guidance

USDA policy memos can be accessed at [fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/policy.htm](https://fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/policy.htm).

## SP 54-2016: Community Eligibility Provision: Guidance and Updated Q&As

This memo provides new guidance to address changes made by the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) final rule published on July 29, 2016. Changes in this edition of the Q&A include:

- Explaining the requirement for LEAs operating CEP to conduct a DC run at least once annually;
- Highlighting updated options for FNS-834 reporting;
- Explaining new requirements and opportunities related to the transfer and carryover of eligibility for students transitioning from CEP schools to non-Provision schools, during and between each school year;
- Explaining that excess funds from other child nutrition programs may be used to cover operational costs under CEP; and
- Clarifying the differences between CEP and Provision 2.

New questions include numbers 30, 35, 66, 74, 75, and 76. Revised questions include numbers 10, 13, 15, 17, 20, 34, 37, 43, 44, 45, and 61. Minor wording changes and revisions to regulatory citations to reflect publication of the final rule also were made throughout. *[New/Revised]* appears next to new or revised questions.

## SP 55-2016, CACFP 26-2016, SFSP 18-2016: Meal Service during Unanticipated School and Day Care Closures

The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify that meals may be served through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Seamless Summer Option (SSO) during unanticipated school closures, including snow days, during the regular school year. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) encourages SFAs participating in the NSLP and/or the School Breakfast Program (SBP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) institutions, and SFSP sponsors to use the described flexibilities to help ensure students do not experience a lapse in food security when extreme weather or other events force area schools or day care programs to close.

## SP 56-2016: Additional Guidance for the Implementation of the Administrative Reviews in School Nutrition Programs Final Rule

This memorandum provides additional guidance to assist with implementation of Administrative Review Final Rule, effective September 27, 2016. It focuses on several provisions of the final rule, including:

- **Fiscal Action for Performance Standard 1 Violations (PS-1)** - Fiscal action for certification and benefit issuance errors found on an AR applies to the entire SFA, including non-reviewed schools.

- **Annual SFA on-site reviews of the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)** - The final rule expands annual on-site monitoring to include readily observable general areas and the SBP, with each school operating the SBP being reviewed once every two years. Updated on-site monitoring forms for NSLP and SBP are included in this memo and may be accessed on our website at [dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/administrative-review](https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/administrative-review). This review should be completed by February 1 each year for each participating school in the SFA, and a follow up review is required within 45 days to ensure corrective action, if identified, is completed.
- **State Agency (SA) Transparency Requirement** - A summary of the final AR report must be posted on the SA website within 30 days after providing it to the SFA. These will be posted on the *Preparing for Your Administrative Review* webpage at [dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/administrative-review](https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/administrative-review). See the newsletter article on page five, *Administrative Review Transparency Requirement*, to learn how the SNT will meet this new requirement.

## SP 57-2016: Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q&A

This Q&A memorandum provides an overview of policies related to unpaid meal charges and addresses common questions on this topic. As a reminder, SFAs are required to have a local meal charge policy in place no later than July 1, 2017.

## SP 58-2016: 2016 Edition: *Overcoming the Unpaid Meal Challenge: Proven Strategies from Our Nation's Schools*

This is an excellent guide summarizing best practices and strategies FNS has collected from state and local program operators with direct experience managing unpaid meal charges. FNS recognizes unpaid meal charges represent a difficult and complex issue directly impacting the schools participating in our programs and the children they serve. This guide supports program operators in their efforts to find workable solutions to this challenge and ensure children continue to have access to the healthy school meals. Of note is a checklist in the appendices section that provides considerations when you are developing the required local meal charge policy for your SFA.

## SP 59-2016: Modifications to Accommodate Disabilities in the School Meal Programs

This memo provides important updates to requirements related to accommodating children with disabilities participating in the school nutrition programs. This guidance supersedes the previous guidance FNS Instruction 783-2, Rev. 2, *Meal Substitutions for Medical or other Special Dietary Reasons*. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Amendments Act of 2008 made changes to the interpretation of the term "disability". Most mental and physical impairments now constitute a disability.

This memo clarifies three changes to procedures around Special Dietary Needs meals:

1. Rather than focusing on whether or not a student has a disability, schools should focus on working collaboratively with parents to ensure an equal opportunity to participate in the school meal programs and receive program benefits.
2. Any person who is authorized to write medical prescriptions under state law qualifies as a state licensed healthcare professional. Any accommodation that can be made and still provide a reimbursable meal does not need a note from a health care provider; the SFA may choose to make this accommodation.
3. Procedural safeguards are required to ensure parents and children have notice of the procedure for requesting meal modifications and the process for resolving disputes.

More information will be provided in an upcoming SNT memo.

#### **SP 60-2016: Indirect Cost Guidance**

This updated indirect cost guidance reflects current cost principals in 2 CFR 200 Subpart E and provides guidance to SFA business officials to ensure the nonprofit school food service account funds are limited to those expenses that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable to provide quality meals for the NSLP and SBP. As a reminder, indirect costs are not allowable in the school lunch program in Wisconsin. All costs must be direct costs. Despite not being able to utilize the indirect cost guidance, this is a helpful resource in reviewing allowable costs for the school meal programs.

#### **SP 61-2016: Fall 2016 Edition: Community Eligibility Provision: Planning and Implementation Guidance**

This guidance memo announces the release of the Fall 2016 Edition of Community Eligibility Provision: Planning and Implementation Guidance. The manual includes new information codified in the final rule, National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Eliminating Applications through Community Eligibility, as required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, and consolidates existing CEP guidance, policy, and best practices from the local level. This edition supersedes SP 22-2016: Community Eligibility Provision: Planning and Implementation Guidance.

#### **SP 04-2017: Model Functional Requirements for State and Local Information Technology (IT) Systems**

This memorandum announces the release of the first version of the “Model Functional Requirements for State School Meal Programs Information Systems” and “Model Functional Requirements for Local School Meal Programs Information Systems” tools. These documents specify what functional requirements state and local IT systems should include to meet school meal program requirements and support program operations. These tools are optional and may be used in the development and enhancement of IT systems for school meal programs.

#### **SP 06-2017: Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP): Funding Allocation Distribution**

Beginning in school year (SY) 2017-18, FFVP will operate at the state-level on a Federal fiscal year funding allocation structure. At this time, we do not expect changes at the school-level. Interested schools will continue to apply annually, and funding will be awarded to participating schools in two allocations each school year. To transition to the new funding timeline, an additional \$747,887 will be included in our October allocation to fund the beginning of the next school year’s programs.

#### **SP 07-2017: Completion of Fiscal Action in School Year 2016-2017 Administrative Reviews**

The Administrative Review in School Nutrition Programs Final Rule directed SAs to apply fiscal action SFA-wide to promote consistency and accuracy in fiscal action procedures. FNS is reviewing questions and information from SAs related to SFA-wide fiscal action and plans to provide additional clarification of assessing fiscal action during ARs in January 2017.

## **Legislative Updates**

In November, DPI submitted the 2017-19 Biennial Budget Request. Under Categorical School Aids, DPI requested an increase to the state School Breakfast Program appropriation to fully fund eligible claims from participating public and private schools and districts in fiscal year (FY) 2018 and FY 2019. Full funding, at a rate of 15 cents per breakfast served, amounts to increases of \$2,689,500 and \$2,989,500, respectively.

Additionally, the request included language to make independent charter schools, the state’s residential schools, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs) eligible for this funding. DPI requested \$139,200 in FY 2018 and \$138,500 in FY 2019 to cover these schools. Extending eligibility to these entities also requires a statutory change, which was requested.

To read the full School Breakfast Program budget request, refer to pages 127-132 of the [DPI Biennial Budget Request](#).

## **Administrative Review Transparency Requirement**

The AR Final Rule included the new requirement for SAs to post a summary of the most recent final AR report for each SFA on the SA website. With input from DPI legal and communications staff, the decision was made to post the full AR report so inaccurate deductions are not made from a summary report. This is intended to more accurately reflect all review areas, include commendations and offer the public a better understanding of the complexity of school meal programs. The final AR report, excluding names and signatures, will be posted on the [Preparing for Your Administrative Review webpage](#) within 30 days of providing it to the SFA.

## Procurement Reviews

SNT has begun conducting Procurement Reviews (PR). If you are receiving an AR this school year, you will also receive a PR. The process begins with an email requesting information related to how your school conducts purchasing and how you manage those purchases and contracts. In most cases, the PR will be conducted on a different date from your AR. We are currently working with SFAs contracted with a Food Service Management Company (FSMC). Next, we will focus on SFAs with Vended Meals Agreements and Joint Agreements, followed by SFAs contracted with Cooperatives and buying groups. All other SFAs will receive their PR toward the end of the school year. We will do our best to keep both reviews separate.

## Food Safety Updates

### Food Waste

The USDA and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced the United States' first-ever national food waste reduction goal, calling for a 50 percent reduction by the year 2030. Schools can demonstrate their commitment to reducing food waste, feeding the hungry, and conserving our natural resources by committing to any of the following activities:

1. [Marketing](#)
2. Social Media
3. [Smarter Lunchroom Techniques](#)
4. Plate Waste Studies
5. Use of Sharing Tables or No Thank You Tables

Source reduction is the ultimate goal of the U.S. Food Waste Challenge. Please note, SFAs are no longer required to obtain approval from SNT for sharing tables or food donations. Specific standard operating procedures (SOPs) must be developed and in place to ensure the safety of any food or beverage placed on a sharing table. Resources are in development and will be posted to the SNT [Food Safety webpage](#) as they become available. Local health and food safety codes apply. Consult your local regulatory authority.

### **Milk Barrels and Bags**

Schools now have the option to use leftover milk in milk barrels and bags, provided they follow an SOP. Milk barrels and bags must use frozen inserts, and the internal temperature must be recorded before milk is placed inside. At the end of service, the milk temperature must be under 41°F in order to return the milk to storage for later use. Temperatures must be recorded on a monitoring log. For SOP templates, visit the [Food Safety webpage](#).

### **Act 46 Changes**

Act 46 is a Wisconsin regulation requiring one person per SFA to hold a certificate of food protective practices. Previously, a person had to pass one of four state-approved exams (ServSafe, Prometric, Food Safety Professionals, or 360Training/Learn2Serve) and send course completion documentation and a fee to the state. SFAs are no longer required to obtain Wisconsin Certified Food Manager

Certificates. Instead, they must post the course completion for review during local health inspections.

Small schools with less than five food service staff must pass an approved exam, but when they need to be recertified, they no longer have to take the exam. SFAs that meet this condition may take a recertification course online. For course options, visit the [Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection \(DATCP\) webpage](#).

## New Local Wellness Policy Resources

WI TN is excited to announce the release of the [Local Wellness Policy Builder Online Tool](#). This tool is designed to assist schools in creating comprehensive school wellness policies that meet the requirements established by USDA in August 2016. School wellness leaders can navigate through eight content sections and select language they would like included in a policy. WI TN will then take your answers and provide you with a document you can share with your district's wellness committee or Board of Education.

Additionally, USDA Team Nutrition recently released their new Local Wellness Policy Toolkit. Schools can download this [communication toolkit](#). Use the resources to engage school staff and parents in school wellness. Share news about your Local School Wellness Policy with customizable flyers, presentations, newsletter articles, and social media posts. Make them specific to your Local School Wellness Policy activities!



## Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Make Great Snacks!

Ask any one of the 190 Wisconsin elementary schools that currently participate in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), and they'll tell you students love fruits and vegetables! It's true that students love some fresh items more than others, but FFVP helps increase exposure to fruits and vegetables which in turn can help increase acceptance. Participating schools are serving up fresh fruits and vegetables as snacks to students at least twice a week, and grant funds can be used to purchase expensive varieties that may be cost-prohibitive to serve at breakfast or lunch. Interested in learning more? Check out the resources posted on the [FFVP webpage](#). Keep an eye on that page starting in February 2017 for more information on the next grant application period.

# SNT Member Updates

Welcome to...

## Faith Huffman

Contract Specialist – Advanced

**Birthplace:** Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**Favorite Vegetable:** Asparagus

**Hobbies and Interests:**

Entrepreneurship and trying new, short, healthy recipes for dinner

**Favorite School Meal:** Mock chicken legs with mashed potatoes and gravy



## Ansley McLeod

Nutrition Program Consultant

**Birthplace:** Dallas, Texas

**Favorite Vegetable:** Brussel sprouts

**Hobbies and Interests:** Reading, painting, watching documentaries, cooking, and any form of exercise

**Most Recent Vacation:** Headed to South Korea in February!



## Fond Farewell to...

**Cindy Loechler**, who retired in October after 18+ years in school nutrition, most recently as a Public Health Nutritionist – Advanced. New adventures await!

## Congratulations to...

**Rebekkah Plano (Bartz)** and her husband, who were married on October 8 in Madison!

**Claire Koenig (Anderson)** and her husband, who were married on October 15 in Stoughton!

**Tracy Huffman**, who welcomed a healthy baby boy (her first) on October 16!

**Nitin Pericherla** and his wife, who were married in November in India!

**Claire Meier**, who welcomed a healthy baby girl (her first) on December 13!

## Pop Quiz Answer: CN Labels

The answer is: **D) Rectangle**

To learn more about CN labels and other types of crediting documentation, visit the [Menu Planning](#) section of the DPI SNT webpage!

# Take the School Breakfast Challenge during National School Breakfast Week!

The School Nutrition Association has [useful resources](#) to help you start planning for National School Breakfast Week today! National School Breakfast Week is March 6-10, 2017. Remember to utilize social media to show off all of your hard work to parents, teachers, and the community. Take photos, promote events, and share important facts about school breakfast on social media accounts. Don't forget the hashtag, #NSBW17!



Why is the hashtag so important? Because it connects you to the larger conversation about National School Breakfast Week. Social media for school nutrition programs isn't just about posting photos – it's about connecting with others and contributing to meaningful conversation about the power of #schoollunch and #schoolbreakfast. Make sure the world knows #WISchoolMealsRock!

Here are some other helpful hashtags to get involved in the conversation:

#SchoolMealsRock #Fresh #RealSchoolFood  
#SchoolLunch #FarmToSchool #HealthySchool  
#SchoolWellness

If you don't have a school social media account but would like to be featured on the DPI School Nutrition Programs accounts, please head to our [webpage](#) and look for the "Share a Photo" widget. Submit your photo with a description to the DPI. We love to see how schools are making Wisconsin school meals rock!

## Upcoming Food Holidays to Consider Celebrating:

### January

National Oatmeal Month  
National Soup Month

### February

National Grapefruit Month  
National Cherry Month  
National Hot Breakfast Month  
8 – National Potato Lovers Day  
12 – National PB&J Day  
23 – National Banana Bread Day  
27 – National Chili Day

### March

National Nutrition Month  
National Noodle Month  
7 – National Cereal Day  
13 – National Chicken Noodle Soup Day  
16 – National Artichoke Heart Day  
18 – National Sloppy Joe Day  
20 – National Ravioli Day



## Mark Your Calendar!

Save the date for these upcoming school nutrition events:

### National Nutrition Month – March 2017

Theme: “Put Your Best Fork Forward”

[nationalnutritionmonth.org/nnm](http://nationalnutritionmonth.org/nnm)

### National School Breakfast Week – March 6-10, 2017

Theme: “Take the School Breakfast Challenge”

[schoolnutrition.org/nsbw](http://schoolnutrition.org/nsbw)

## My Plate, My State



My Plate, My State is a recent addition to *My Plate, My Wins* campaign, which helps individuals find healthful eating patterns that people can maintain in their everyday lives! *My Plate, My State* specifically encourages support of our state’s farmers by incorporating the foods and flavors that grow

in our state into the way you eat every day. It’s all about finding the diet that works for you, then making small changes to include more local foods. The following foods are produced right here in Wisconsin:

- Apples
- Barley
- Cabbage
- Carrots
- Cheese
- Cherries
- Cucumber
- Cranberries
- Goats
- Grapes
- Oats
- Onions
- Pumpkins
- Squash
- Strawberries
- Sweet corn
- Trout
- Turkey

Share your progress and efforts! Send photos of your school’s *My Plate, My State* to SNT on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). We also challenge you to find creative ways to fill students’ plates with more local foods!

Want to know what your plate looks like? Looking for additional support in serving local foods? Visit the [USDA Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food webpage](#) to get all of your local food questions answered.

## Paid Lunch Equity Tool

It’s that time of year again – start talking with your school boards and administrators about Paid Lunch Equity (PLE). All SFAs must run the PLE tool annually to document if and by how much paid lunch prices need to be increased.

You can run the 2017-18 PLE tool today with a copy of your 2016-17 PLE tool, your October 2016 lunch prices, and your October 2016 meal count data. Don’t delay in running the tool, as your prices must be set to the appropriate amount starting on the first day of SY 2017-18.

The 2017-18 PLE tool and instructions are available on the DPI SNT [Financial webpage](#). A copy of the completed 2017-18 PLE tool should be uploaded to your 2017-18 school nutrition contract. Please note, if your school has contributed non-federal funds in the past for PLE and intends to raise prices for the upcoming school year, you must use the SY 17-18 Split Calculator tab to receive credit for the non-federal contributions. As always, SNT is happy to answer any questions.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

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