

School Nutrition Program Updates

Maine School Nutrition Association
Conference
August 9, 2016

Overview

- Smart Snacks final rule
- Local wellness policy final rule
- Unpaid meal charges
- Procurement



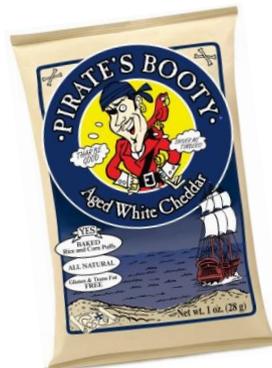
Smart Snacks Final Rule

- Effective September 27, 2016
- Food exemptions:
 - “Paired exempt” foods (peanut butter and celery, reduced fat cheese and apples)
 - Total fat and saturated fat standards for eggs
 - *Calorie and sodium limits still apply for both
 - Sugar-free chewing gum exempt from all standards and may be sold at the discretion of LEA



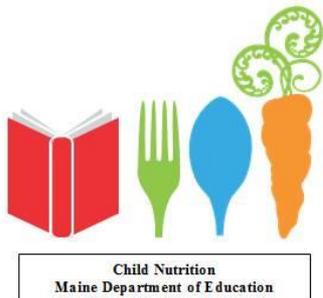
Smart Snacks Changes

- DGA Nutrients of Public Health Concern
 - Items with 10% of the Daily Value of a nutrient of public health concern (i.e. calcium, potassium, vitamin D or dietary fiber) allowed to be sold for SY 2015-16 only
 - Effective July 1, 2016 this criterion expired



Smart Snacks Changes

- Sodium limits
 - Effective July 1, 2016 snack items and side dishes must have not more than 200 mg of sodium per item.
 - Change from 230 mg of sodium for SY 2015-16



Local Wellness Policy Final Rule

- Effective August 29, 2016
- Timeline:
 - Technical assistance provided by State Agency during School Year 2016-17 reviews
 - Full compliance expected June 30, 2017
 - Assessed during reviews conducted in School Year 2017-18.
 - Compliance is at LEA level, not SFA



Elements of Local Wellness Policy

- Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods
 - LWP must include standards for foods sold and non-sold foods and beverages available on campus during school day (celebrations, rewards)
- Goals for nutrition education and promotion, and physical activity
 - Measurable goals, evidenced- based strategies, such as Smarter Lunchrooms



Elements of Local Wellness Policy

- Policies for Food and Beverage Marketing
 - Need to include that only foods and beverages that meet Smart Snacks will be marketed to students
 - Vending machines
 - Scoreboards
 - Other signage



Public Involvement and Notification

- Public Involvement
 - Permit participation by key stakeholders in development of LWP including parents, students, PE and health teachers, food service, etc.
 - LEA's need to have a plan involving stakeholders
- Public Notification
 - Actively notify households on an annual basis on the availability of the LWP and provide information to those interested
 - Post on school website and notify families of how to obtain a copy, post in school office, speak at a PTO or school board meeting



Assessment of Local Wellness Policy

- Triennial assessment
 - At least once every three years provide an assessment on progress towards meeting goals
 - Has to be made available to the public

*Final rule removed requirement to annually report progress of LWP to public



Recordkeeping

- At a minimum must include:
 - Copy of local wellness policy
 - Documentation of public involvement
 - Documentation of public notification
 - Documentation of triennial assessment and that it has been made available to the public



Unpaid Meal Charges

- SP 46-2016: Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies (July 8, 2016)
 - Requires all SFA's to establish a meal charge policy that is clearly communicated to school administrators and staff, food service professionals, families and students
 - By July 1, 2017, all SFA's operating NSLP and/or SBP must have a written and clearly communicated policy



Policy Considerations

- Developed and implemented at the district level (may vary for elementary, middle, high school)
- Minimize identification of children with insufficient funds to pay for meals
- Meal charge limits and alternate meals are at the discretion of the district



Policy Communications

- Policy provided in writing to all households at the start of the school year as well as to transfer students
- Included in student handbooks and/or online portals to access student accounts
- Encouraged to use multiple methods to reach households
- Also provided to all school or district level staff responsible for enforcement (food service professionals, administrators, guidance counselors, etc.)



Delinquent Meal Payments

- SP 47-2016: Unpaid Meal Charges: Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments (July 8, 2016)
 - Debt is considered “delinquent” as long as it is considered collectable and efforts are being made to collect it.
 - Unpaid meal charges may be carried over at the end of the school year
 - As time goes on will be harder to collect



Delinquent Meal Payments

- SFA's must make reasonable efforts towards collecting unpaid meal charges
 - Timeframe and methods made at district level
 - Encouraged to consider whether the benefits of collections outweigh the costs incurred to achieve those collections
 - Collection of unpaid meal charges should be included in the written meal charge policy



“Bad Debt”

- Bad Debt- when local officials determine that further collection efforts are not working or too costly (uncollectable debt)
- Must be written off as operating loss but cannot be absorbed by food service account
- Considered an unallowable cost to the food service program, as well as collection costs and legal costs associated with it
 - Only non-federal funds can be used



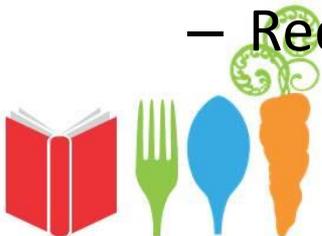
Procurement

- Part of the administrative review process for School Year 2016-17
 - Technical assistance will be the focus
- What are your current procurement practices?
 - Know your small purchase threshold
 - Are goods and services being competitively purchased?



Levels of Procurement

- Micropurchase threshold- \$3,500 or below
 - Not a competitive procurement
- Small purchase threshold- determined at the local level (State of Maine is \$10,000)
 - Informal procurement- 2 quotes and a buy
- Formal procurement- above small purchase threshold level
 - Requires formal bid process (solicitation)



Questions?

