

MAY 14, 2026

Child Nutrition Thursday Update

In this week's Thursday Update

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UEI Numbers



Things to remember about UEI Numbers

Every District / Sponsor has a UEI number, usually managed by the Business Office.

UEI numbers expire every year, therefore they must be reactivated each year.

All districts must have an “Active” UEI number.

All UEI numbers are reviewed prior to application approval in NSLP, SFSP and CACFP.

Please contact your business office to confirm that your UEI number is Active

If, after speaking to your Business Office, you still have questions, please contact jodi.truman@maine.gov.

USDA Foods

SY2026-2027 USDA Foods Cancellation

USDA has informed us of a shortfall, due to vendor constraints, that is preventing them from purchasing frozen broccoli. Those who purchased broccoli will need to purchase it from their distributor instead. PAL entitlement will be credited back to your accounts.



DoD Fresh

FFAVORS

As a reminder, sponsors who participate in the DoD Fresh Program, are required to receipt within 2 business days before a receipt is considered past due. If past due receipts exist, ordering will be locked until past due receipts are processed.

The Apple Act

The Apple Act was passed thru the Supplemental Budget at the end of the legislative session and will become law on July 29, 2026.

While it will become law then, the statute allows a year for us to stand up the program, and funds will not be available thru the Early Childhood Nutrition Grant Program until SY28.

You can find the language in the Supplemental Budget, Chapter 650, on page 168, section BB. This will eventually live as part of the Maine State Statute as **§6603-A. Early childhood nutrition grant program.**

<https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1491&item=37&snum=132>

Summer Harvest of the Month

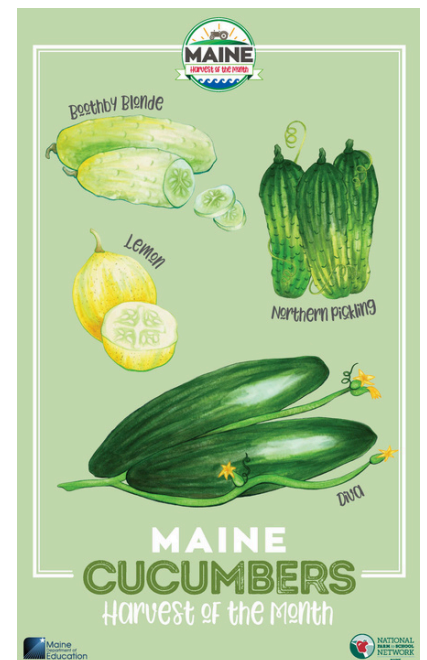
Pledge Today!!

Now is the time to sign up for Summer Harvest of the Month (HOM)! Summer is the perfect time to participate when Maine's bounty is most plentiful!

By pledging, you'll receive toolkits for July (Maine Summer Squash) & August (Maine Cucumber). This includes promotional posters, source cards, recipes, stickers, & more!

Click [HERE](#) to pledge today.

For more information about HOM, visit our [Child Nutrition Website](#). If you have any questions, email katie.knowles@maine.gov





You're Invited to
David Hartley's
Retirement Party!

After **34** years, David Hartley is retiring from **Child Nutrition!**



June 8th



1 p.m. – 4 p.m.



Deering Building
90 Blossom Lane,
Augusta

Open House Style!



Come help us celebrate David and an amazing **34** years of service!

Want to send David best wishes,
follow the link below to the e-card

<https://www.groupgreeting.com/sign/ea2bcc0e4e94a69>

Please let Paula know by June 1st if you plan on joining us.

National School Lunch Program Information Portal

National School Lunch Program Sponsors

Follow the [TWO](#) steps below to join

Our office is now using EnGiNE, Maine DOE's open-source learning portal. You **must sign up using this [link](#).

Please be sure to use your school email address.

No matter how many schools in your District, please only register one time.

*****Once you have access to EnGiNE or you already have access to EnGiNE, you MUST enroll in the National School Lunch Program Information Portal using this [link](#).***

Not a National School Lunch Program Sponsor?

If you would like access to the NSLP Portal, please contact Paula, paula.nadeau@maine.gov **prior** to signing up, using the links above, as your access will need to be approved.

Instructions on how to send a message using the Portal can be found on our [website](#).

Webinars

paula.nadeau@maine.gov

Farm & Sea to School

May 18, 2026

1:30pm

Join us on May 18th for a Farm & Sea to School webinar featuring the latest local foods updates, upcoming events, and a look ahead to fall. We'll highlight opportunities to participate in Maine Harvest Lunch Week this September and Maine Apple Crunch Day in October, along with updates on Harvest of the Month. Tune in to stay connected and start planning for the seasons ahead.

Show Me the Numbers!

Completing Your Annual Financial Report and Mastering the Nonprogram Revenue Ratio

May 19, 2026

1:30pm

Join us for a practical webinar where we'll walk through completing the Annual Financial Report (AFR) in CNPweb – step by step. We will also highlight the nonprogram revenue ratio—what it is, why it matters, and how to get it right. (Spoiler: it's all about making sure your nonprogram food revenue keeps up with your costs .)

Did you miss a webinar?

You can view it by going to the [Webinars and Training](#) page of our website.

Hosted by the Maine Farm and Sea to School Network

Maine Farm & Sea to School CONFERENCE



A full day of **networking, hands-on workshops, and learning dedicated to Farm & Sea to School in Maine**

Geared towards K-12 schools and early childhood education (ECE) centers. Open to everyone.

Friday July 17, 2026

8:30-3:30

The Ecology School
184 Simpson Rd, Saco, ME 04072

Register Here →
mainefarmtoschool.org



For questions email Sarah Sims at s.sims@hccame.org

- Local Procurement**
sourcing and serving local food in cafeterias and school meals
- Education**
food and agriculture education and curriculum integration
- School Gardens**
connecting students directly to where food is grown through hands-on and experimental learning

MAINE FARM & SEA TO SCHOOL NETWORK | healthy communities OF THE CAPITAL AREA | MAINE FARM & SEA TO SCHOOL NETWORK

The Maine Farm and Sea to School Network is excited to host the 7th Maine Farm and Sea to School Conference, the first state-wide convening since 2019.

This event is open to everyone and is dedicated to Farm and Sea to School in Maine. Join schools, early childhood education (ECE) sites, farmers, fishermen, advocates, and partners from across the state for a full day of networking, hands-on workshops, and learning.

Together we'll explore increasing local food in cafeterias, growing school gardens, and integrating agriculture and food systems into the curriculum all while building the connections that make farm and sea to school thrive in Maine.

Together, we can nourish our students, support our farmers and fishermen, strengthen our local economy, and ensure every child in Maine grows up with the food and agricultural literacy to build a more resilient, just local food system for all.

When: July 17, 2026

Where: The Ecology School, Saco, Maine

Learn more and register today at mainefarmtoschool.org/mefarmtoschoolconference

**Other Available
Training You May
Find Interesting**



Hands-on Foundational Fish Skills Training

Join the Gulf of Maine Research Institute and Healthy Acadia on Friday, May 29th, from 2 pm-5 pm at the Hancock County Technical Center in Ellsworth for a hands-on Foundational Fish Skills Training. Participants will build basic skills around working with raw fish filets in the kitchen, learn about the wide diversity of local seafood available to K-12 schools, and strengthen sea-to-school knowledge and expertise. Participants will walk away with resources and tools to implement sea-to-school programs at their schools. This training provides 2.5 CEU hours. It's free to attend, but please register here to save your spot. [RSVP today!](#)

What: Local fish training for K-12 food service professionals

Date: Friday, May 29

Time: 2 pm-5 pm

Location: Hancock County Technical Center

112 Boggy Brook Rd., Ellsworth, ME

RSVP here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeqxnYAU12mBEey628yxsg7zJXOTtrG50WSE7JrHYIVuse0Ag/viewform?usp=header>

Please reach out to Sophie Scott with questions

sscott@gmri.org



Serving fresh produce in your school? **Check out this great training from ICN**

Produce Webinar Series – Fresh, Safe, and Nutritious: Buying and Serving Fresh-Cut Produce.

- Learn about regulations and best practices of the commercial fresh-cut industry and what to look for at your processing facility
- Identify food safety risks associated with fresh-cut produce
- Review specification writing resources, including USDA Commercial Item Descriptions
- Explain the difference between fresh-cut portion pack weight and volume measure

<https://ilearn.theicn.org/learn/courses/788/produce-webinar-series-fresh-safe-and-nutritious-buying-and-serving-fresh-cut-produce-may-2026/lessons>

Shout Outs!!



MAINE
SCHOOL NUTRITION
— ASSOCIATION —

is proud to announce:

Congratulations!



David Vargas

MSAD60

DIRECTOR
OF THE
YEAR



Shelley Coite

YORK SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT

MANAGER
OF THE
YEAR



Amanda Bowden

WINDHAM RAYMOND
SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPLOYEE
OF THE
YEAR



Thank you
for your leadership,
dedication and
commitment to Maine
students every day!



NOURISHING
STUDENTS.
SUPPORTING
COMMUNITIES.
BUILDING A
HEALTHIER MAINE.

