



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0023

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

A. PENDER MAKIN
COMMISSIONER

May 27, 2025

Al Pfeiffer
Superintendent
Vassalboro Public Schools
1116 Webber Pond Road
Vassalboro, ME 04989

Dear Superintendent Pfeiffer:

The Vassalboro Public Schools Nutrition Program was reviewed per Federal Regulation 7CFR 210.18 and Maine Department of Education Child Nutrition policies and procedures. On April 10, 2025 Nic LaBreck reviewed Vassalboro Community School. An exit conference with John Hersey occurred on May 14, 2025. The enclosed review report describes findings that were discovered during the review. At the time of this report, all Corrective Action has been received. The SY 2025 School Nutrition Program Administrative Review has been completed.

This is to notify you that this is the final action and the Administrative Review is now closed. Should you have any questions, please contact Nic LaBreck at 557-3283 or email nicholas.j.labreck@maine.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jane McLucas'.

Jane McLucas
Child Nutrition Director

JM/NL/pn

SNP Administrative Review Report**Vassalboro Public Schools (473)****Program Year 2025****Vassalboro Public Schools (473)**

1116 Webber Pond Rd
Vassalboro, ME 04989

Food Service Contact

John Hersey
Food Service Director
(207) 873-2751

Executive Contact

Al Pfeiffer
Superintendent
(207) 923-3100

No. of Sites / Reviewed: 1 / 1

Month of Review: March 2025

Date of Onsite Review: April 10, 2025

Commendations

- * Vassalboro Community School's Nutrition Program is operating well. John Hersey and his staff have done an excellent job running a complex program. John was organized and well-prepared for the review. John demonstrated his knowledge and experience in the food service industry while on site. I appreciated John working with us on his program.
- * The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), is an option for schools that have at least 25% enrolled students on the direct certification (DC) list from DHHS. The benefits include reduced administrative burden by eliminating free/reduced applications and the verification process. It also streamlines meal counting and claims as only a total count is needed, rather than tracking by student name. It is in the Vassalboro Community School Nutrition Program's best interest to assess their eligibility for this program. Any questions can be directed to the Child Nutrition office.

Certification and Benefit Issuance - Vassalboro Public Schools (473)**126. Certification Benefits/Issuance Review Method, applications correctly approved?****Finding 9000: Eligibility Documentation Error**

Free/Reduced-price meal eligibility documentation for 100% of school was reviewed. One application/one student was incorrectly approved for 'reduced' that should have been 'denied'.

Corrective Action:

Status Updated on form on site, please provide proof of correction in Mosaic system.
Corrective action received on 5/19/2025, no further action required.

General Program Compliance - Vassalboro Public Schools (473)**1007. On-site observations validate Off-Site Assessment Tool responses to Local School Wellness Policy questions and responses demonstrate compliance with FNS requirements?****Technical Assistance: Local Wellness Policy**

Competitive Foods during the School Day - This section should specifically mention the federal Smart Snack Guidelines as all food sold to students during the school day must comply with these guidelines. It is recommended to make this revision during the next policy review.

1403. Did a review of agricultural food components indicate violations of the Buy American provision?**Technical Assistance: Buy American Provision**

The Buy American provision requires school food authorities to purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products.

Recently, the USDA established a new threshold for school food authorities that use exceptions to this requirement. The limit on the percent of total commercial food costs from non- domestic foods will be phased in over 7 school years.

- Beginning in SY 2025-26, the non- domestic food purchases cap will be 10 percent.
- Beginning in SY 2028-29, the non- domestic food purchases cap will be 8 percent.
- Beginning in SY 2031-32, the non- domestic food purchases cap will be 5 percent.

This phased-in approach will allow schools to gradually adjust to the new requirement.