December 22, 2022

Child Nutrition

Thursday Update

2023 FARM TO SCHOOL COOK-OFF

Register your team by

January 13, 2023

This year's challenge ingredients are:

CARROTS & OATS

Use this link to register your team. More information about the Cook-off can be found on our website.

In this week's update

SCA-Round 3

School Closure due to Covid-19

Keep Kids Fed Act

USDA String Cheese

USDA White Shredded Cheese

SCA - Round 3

Sponsors now have the opportunity to opt in to receive Supply Chain Assistance - Round 3. If your District wishes to receive these fund, please complete this form before January 31, 2023.

School Closure due to COVID-19

We have heard that schools may be closing at times due to increased illness amongst staff and students. If these closures are related to COVID-19, there are NSLP non-congregate, parent and guardian meal pick-up, meal service times, and Offer Versus Serve waivers that can be used if closures are school days. Please email adriane.ackroyd@maine.gov if you need to request these waivers due to COVID-19 impacting your congregate meal service and closure days will count as a school day. This form will need to be completed.

When would I request these NSLP waivers? If COVID-19 is limiting your congregate meal service, for instance, if your school closes due to COVID-19 and students are learning remotely as a school day.

What about CACFP? Waivers for CACFP At-Risk must be COVID related. Please contact Alissa Mank alissa.m.mank@maine.gov for more information on waiver requests.

These NSLP COVID-19 waivers are not for snow days, non-COVID related remote learning or meals served on non-school days. Email adriane.ackroyd@maine.gov for information on additional COVID-19 waivers for unanticipated school closures.

Heads up from Jane

This reminder was brought to my attention as I was doing some homework! Thought I would share as budget season is approaching....

The Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022 provides an additional 40 cents for each lunch served and allows an additional 15 cents for each breakfast served for the school year starting July 1, 2022 ending on June 30, 2023.

Reminder - USDA String Cheese

In order to prolong the flavor and texture, string cheese that was delivered in December was frozen. As a reminder, this cheese has a used by date of December 2, 2022. If it has not been used, please be sure that it is still frozen. Please keep in mind that the long it is stored, the taste and texture of the string cheese will be affected.

White Shredded Cheese

White shredded cheese will be delivered beginning in January. It will come to your schools frozen to prolong its shelf-life.
Allow the cheese to thaw, in the refrigerator for 24-48 hours. Use any thawed cheese as soon as possible in order to maintain its quality.

The Child Nutrition office will be closed on the following dates:
December 23rd all state offices are closing at noon.
Monday, December 26th
Monday, January 2nd

No Thursday Update on December 29th

VACATION

The Child Nutrition Staff wish everyone a restful vacation!

Registration links are in the titles

Child Nutrition Updates Webinar

January 23, 2023 @ 1:30

ServSafe Exam Only

January 25th @ 2:00

Registration deadline is January 9, 2023

Arrive early, testing begins promptly at 2:00. Bring photo ID (you will not be able to take the exam if you do not have your ID), pens or pencils, erasers. Once test has begun no late arrivals will be allowed to take the exam.

Roundtable Discussion on Dietary Accommodations in School Meal Programs

January 26th @ 1:30

School nutrition professionals are invited to join us either in person or virtually for a roundtable discussion on January 26, 2023, to discuss dietary accommodations in school meal programs. Bring your questions and concerns as this will be an interactive meeting!
If you opt to join us virtually, the link to the meeting will be sent on January 25th.

In person culinary training!!!

January 25th @ 1:30

Sign up for the waiting list

Bialys

Join The Good Crust founder - Heather Kerner along with Sales and Marketing Lead, Nick Rimsa to get acquainted with their 3oz bialys and see how they can work in your school kitchens.

A couple of things about bialys:
They help food service programs easily meet their grain and fruit/vegetable requirements, and they're easy to work with (and throw onto sheet trays for simple baking).
They can be used for both sweet and savory items on your menu.

Culinary Classroom Reminders

To participate in our culinary training, participants must sign a Participation Agreement prior to the training. Please read, sign and email the completed form to Paula Nadeau at paula.nadeau@maine.gov

We ask that the following order be adhered to for those who wish to participate:

Cooks and Prep Cooks

Directors and Managers who work or assist in the kitchen

Non-production staff

REGISTER A TEAM FROM YOUR DISTRICT!!!!

for the

2023 FARM TO SCHOOL COOK-OFF

THIS YEAR'S CHALLENGE INGREDIENTS ARE

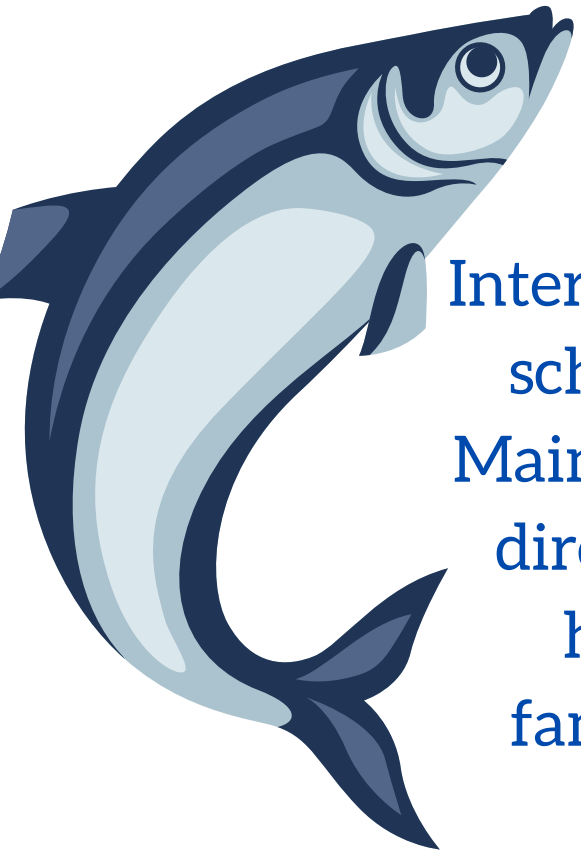
CARROTS!

OATS!

Use this link to register your team by **January 13, 2023**

More information regarding the cook-off can be found on our website.

If you have questions about the cook-off,
contact Stephanie, Robin or Michele



Maine Fish in Maine Schools

Interested in receiving free local fish this school year? The Fishermen Feeding Mainers (FFM) Program seeks to provide direct financial relief to fishermen by helping them supply schools and families in need with healthy Maine seafood.

If you would like to be notified when fish is available, please fill out this form.

Happy Hanukkah

Merry Christmas

Happy Kwanza