

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

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(563) 383-2200

State of Florida, County of Orange, ss:

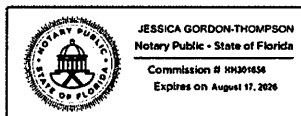
Ankit Sachdeva, The undersigned, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that I am the Authorized Agent of the publisher of Moline Dispatch Argus, in the state of Illinois, and further certifies on behalf of the publisher that the Moline Dispatch Argus is now and has been for more than one year continuously, a daily secular newspaper of general circulation published in the City of East Moline, County of Rock Island, State of Illinois, and further certifies that said newspaper has been continuously published at a regular interval of more than once each week with more than a minimum of fifty issues per year for more than one year prior to the first publication of the notice, and further certifies that Moline Dispatch Argus, is a newspaper as defined by the Statutes of the State of Illinois in such cases made and provided, and further certifies that this affidavit is Page 1 of with the full text of the sworn-to notice set forth on the pages that follow, and that the attachment hereto contains the correct copy of what was published in said newspaper in consecutive issues on the following dates:

April. 24, 2025

NOTICE ID: IMBaAlsoJ3reGY6tpc6g
PUBLISHER ID: COL-IA-301701
NOTICE NAME: Copy Invitation for Bid
Publication Fee: \$35.06

Ankit Sachdeva

(Signed) _____



VERIFICATION

State of Florida
County of Orange

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: **04/24/2025**

J. R.

Notary Public
Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

Northwest Food Purchasing
Cooperative Seeks Bids for SY25-
26 Food & Supplies

The Northwest Illinois School
Food Cooperative is requesting
bids for the provision of all food
and supplies for the School Year
2025-2026. Interested vendors are
invited to submit their proposals.
An electronic copy of the bid will be
available beginning April 23, 2025.

Contact:

For more information and bid spec-
ifications, please contact: Colln
Kave Phone: 309-792-2887 ext
2317 Email: ckave@emsd37.org
COL-IA-301701

NW IL COOP

Bid Opening 5-28-25 1:00pm

Geneseo School District; Unit Office, Training Room
to start School Year 2025-26

		Total of Groups A - F	Total of Group G	Total of all Groups	Group H	Difference
BIDDER		FOODS	CHEMICAL	TOTAL BID AMOUNT (A-G)	Small Equipment Fixed Fee	
1	Martin Brothers (5-19-25)	Will not be submitting proposal		\$0.00		
2	Performance Food Service (5-23-25)	\$6,942,962.43	\$35,869.06	\$6,978,831.49	\$2.00/case	\$264,017.32 over
3	Kohl Wholesale (5-27-25)	\$6,693,891.76	\$20,922.41	\$6,714,814.17	\$2.50/case	3.90%
4	Gordon FS			\$0.00		
5	US Foods			\$0.00		
6	Sysco			\$0.00		
7						

IOWA-ILLINOIS SCHOOL FOOD COOPERATIVE

Invitation For Bid Foods and Non-Food Expendable Supplies – 6/10/2019





The Leading Customer-Driven Regional Broadline Foodservice Distributor

Iowa-Illinois School Food Cooperative
Beth Amlong, Orion CUSD #223
1002 11th Ave.
Orion, Illinois 61273
309-526-3392 ext. 1285

Beth,

It is with great pride that we offer you the Kohl Wholesale Invitation for Bid – Foods and Non-Food Expendable Supplies for the Iowa-Illinois School Food Cooperative. We are honored to have the opportunity to partner in your business. With over 35% of Kohl Wholesale's business being in the K-12 segment, we feel that we are specialists in your segment and business. We have grown substantially in the past 20 years in this market segment and feel that we are truly the K-12 specialists in the Midwest.

Our affiliation with the State School Nutrition Associations and National SNA confirm our understanding and appreciation of the K-12 segment. Our 146-year young family owned company is large enough to handle any customer, yet small enough to be flexible to curtail our services to any customers' needs.

Kohl Wholesale agrees with the verbiage and expectations in the Invitation for Bid – Foods and Non-Food Expendable Supplies. Any requests that differentiate from the sealed bid are noted in this document. We have provided notes on topics that are both specifically and not specifically mentioned in the sealed bid, but we feel helpful to make an informed decision. Please see attached documentation representing Kohl's additional resources that are available free of charge to our partners. We reserve the right to adjust pricing based on "Acts of God" or unforeseen changes to the Government regulations, such as tariffs.

Kohl Wholesale certifies that the contents of this request are submitted on behalf of Kohl Wholesale and are true and accurate. We certify that Kohl Wholesale has not made any knowingly false statements in this proposal and as undersigned, we have the authority to represent this company and submit this proposal.

Sincerely,

Britta Carper
Pricing Manager
brittac@kohlwholesale.com

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Kohl Wholesale Distributor Qualifications and Special Services

- **Firm History:**

- Kohl Wholesale is a family owned broadline foodservice distributor located in Quincy, IL. We have been in business for 146 years. We are owned by the Ehrhart family, which is the 5th generation of family ownership. Kohl Wholesale surpassed the \$220 million-dollar sales mark in 2018. Kohl maintains that at least 35% of those sales are in the K-12 segment in MO, IL, and IA. Because of this large percentage of business, we carry thousands of K-12 specific items at Kohl. Kohl Wholesale offers dry goods, frozen foods, fresh meats, fresh produce, janitorial supplies, paper and disposable goods, chemicals, beverage, and large equipment. Kohl participates in the HACCP program and has staff members certified in creating and maintaining our own HACCP plan.
- Kohl has expanded their capabilities in 2019 with the addition of a brand-new distribution center. This large investment in the future will allow Kohl to grow and continue to offer our high level of service to our existing customer base. Kohl has also continuously invested in their truck fleet (over 100 trucks and trailers) and employees (over 400). These constant improvements require substantial investment by our family ownership.

- **Additional Services:** Kohl Wholesale is proud to provide additional services above and beyond the delivery of products. Kohl Wholesale proudly maintains their own dedicated service team to support the needs of any of our foodservice partners. This service team is specialized in chemical dispensing systems (including dishwasher service), dispensed beverage solutions, paper products, ice machine service, and floor maintenance equipment and service. Kohl offers full service and placement of chemical dispensing equipment. Kohl also offers Dish Machine leases where applicable or can sell dish machines outright. The Kohl Service team can fix almost any dish machine and is on call 24/7. Kohl Wholesale offers two Registered Dietitians and two Corporate Chefs. These Specialists are here to provide in the field work at your facilities. We offer Smart Snack compliant product lists, Whole Grain Specific Product Guides, CEU hours at your demand, Serve Safe certification, menu compliance and development services, and even audit help. Kohl also offers the services of two Commodity Specialists who work specifically with School Districts to ensure maximum benefit of their commodity dollars.

- **Value Add Services:** Kohl Wholesale adds many "Value Add Services" to our school foodservice partners. Please see below list, but we are not limited to this list. All services here are truly "Value Add" and are Free of Charge.

- **Kohl Kash Rebates-** Kohl Wholesale will automatically track certain manufacturer rebates. Kohl will prepare the tracking for these items and will send to each individual school for renewal. A complete list of these rebates is available at www.kohlwholesale.com

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- Menu Certification and Assistance- Through the leadership of our Specialist team Kohl can create menus specific to your district. These menus will be certified to meet all USDA guidelines. We can also customize your current menus to co-inside with your specific needs. This partnership has been found to be the most valuable to many of our customers.
- School Sampling or Special Events- Kohl's Specialists team have conducted many special events where food is the focus. We have participated in special Student focused food trainings, Student Led Committees to vote on food choices, Student focused cooking events, special events such as holiday themes and/or fundraisers, and anything else you can dream of. We are here to support your special needs and will help however we can.
- Locally Grown Produce Program- Kohl partners with local farmers to offer locally grown produce programs. Our partners will even plan their growing seasons based on the needs of you the customer.
- Chef Assistance and Training- Our Corporate Chefs are offered for onsite training. They are well versed in knife skills training, spice utilization training, back of the house training, front of the house training, and can customize any training to work specifically with the needs of the individual district.
- Certified Dietitian Support- Kohl is very proud to offer the services of Susan Kidwell and Rebecca Shinn. Susan and Rebecca have both been at Kohl for over nine years and are well versed in the K-12 industry. They are available for CEU, Serve Safe, and any other K-12 consulting opportunities. Kohl believes that these Dietary services are truly an invaluable resource to our customers.
- On-Line Ordering- Our online ordering can be fully customized. We also include all nutritional sheets for school audits on our online ordering system. We can also build customized order guides to limit or expand the products that are being offered to an individual school. Our system interacts seamlessly with Microsoft Excel, thus offering ease of use when ordering and taking inventories. This system can check current on hand quantities and allocate your order as long as it is placed two days before delivery by 4pm. The Power Net system allows you to approve orders that are put in the system by the cooks or managers at each location. We call this user rights. We can change the rights of any user to be an order creator without submission capabilities. These orders would wait in queue until the User that had approval and submission rights approved and submitted orders. Custom reports can be created and customized using the Power Net system. Any reports that are not available on the Power Net system can be custom generated by our Customer Service team at any time. CN information is available on Power Net and also can be generated for you by your DSR or your Customer Service team. All of these services are provided at no cost to the end user.

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- Customer Service- Kohl Wholesale offers a team of 18 internal Customer Service Representatives. While many companies are outsourcing customer service responsibilities, our Customer Service Team continues to grow.
- Truck Tracking- The Kohl Wholesale fleet is managed by DR Track which locates and records all trucks via GPS. Our customers have access to track their deliveries via <http://track.kohlwholesale.com:1111/>. Our "Where's My Truck" button is available at <http://www.kohlwholesale.com/>. Our fleet management system records temperatures in our trucks at all times of operation per FSMA expectations.
- Food Shows- Kohl offers two food shows in Quincy, IL. One show in the fall specifically designed for our School partners, and one in the spring focused on our restaurant and seasonal partners. We allow our School Foodservice Suppliers to "double dip" at these events. Meaning additional allowances are offered above and beyond the regular bid price. These buying shows are a huge financial windfall for many of our current School Foodservice partners.
- ILSNA- Kohl Wholesale participates and is a member of the Illinois School Nutrition Association. We currently participate in many events with the ILSNA including their annual show and commodity show.
- School Foodservice Focus- Over 35% of Kohl Wholesale's current business mix is in the School Foodservice Field. We are specifically setup to do business with Schools. We understand their needs and cater specifically to our School Foodservice Partners.
- School Foodservice Innovations- Kohl brings in several hundred new products each school year that are specifically designed to support and sell to School Foodservice. If you find an item or a manufacturer that you want to feature on your menus, or sell in your schools, we will be happy to bring in and stock for you if needed.
- Commodity Participation- Kohl actively participates in the Federal Commodity system. Kohl participates in MFFS, NOI, and donated food programs. We offer two Commodity Specialists at Kohl who can work with you to designate your commodity dollars and then maximize their use and effectiveness for your district. Kohl understands that the commodity system is complex and sometimes confusing. Our Commodity Specialist are here to help train and assist all things commodity. This year alone Kohl Wholesale stocked over 80 MFFS items and hundreds of NOI items. We feel that we stock more commodity items than any other distributor in the Midwest. Kohl keeps physical inventories of these items and maintains them daily.

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- Online Bill Pay Portal- This portal allows customers access to their accounts at Kohl Wholesale. Customers can print statements, search invoices, and make payments all in one easy to use site. FTNI allows Kohl to automate and integrate the payment process for all of our customers. This system makes all information available on demand to all of our customers 24/7/365.
- Virtual Ship- Kohl has the ability to ship some products directly from our secondary warehouse. This is the Kohl Virtual Ship program. Items ordered can be delivered within two days via UPS. This program has a low shipping rate for many items and works great for supply and equipment and specialty items.
- Kohl Quick Pay ACH- Kohl offers a 1% rebate on all invoices paid within seven days of delivery via ACH. This ACH can be setup at any time. This 1% QuickPay discount would replace the current .5% discount that is currently in place if paid in 10 days. Please contact us for set up.

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Vendor Profile/Additional Information

General Information

- Vendor Name: N. Kohl Grocer Company, DBA Kohl Wholesale
- Office Address: 130 Jersey, Quincy, IL 62301
- Warehouse Address: 4705 Gardner Expressway, Quincy, IL 62305
- Proposal Contact Name: Britta Carper
- Contact E-Mail: brittac@kohlwhoelsale.com
- Describe Company Structure: Corporation
- Years in Business: 146
- Member of the Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa School Nutrition Association as well as the National School Nutrition Association

Kohl Wholesale Contact Information

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ○ Matt Ehrhart - President/Owner <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ matte@kohlwholesale.com▪ 217-222-5000 Extension 2112 | ○ Bill Boydstun – District Sales Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ billb@kohlwholesale.com▪ 217-222-5000 Extension 2222 |
| ○ Britta Carper - Pricing/Bid Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ brittac@kohlwholesale.com▪ 217-222-5000 Extension 2150 | ○ Don Harder – District Sales Representative <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ donh@kohlwholesale.com▪ 217-222-5000 Extension 2628 |
| ○ Aaron Kerkhoff - Director of Sales <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ aaronk@kohlwholesale.com▪ 217-222-5000 Extension 2177 | ○ Su Keith - Commodities Specialist Lead <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ su.keith@kohlwholesale.com▪ 217-222-5000 Extension 2393 |

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Implementation Plan



Kohl Wholesale New Distribution Center opened February 2018

Transportation/Delivery

- Kohl has implemented new picking procedures to start picking earlier each day. Orders being in two days ahead will be of the upmost importance as we will start picking in the afternoon before the trip leaves Kohl's facilities. Net results will be earlier and more accurate deliveries.
- Kohl asks that all first deliveries of the year be entered by July 8th. This will help to ensure items are procured appropriately and the large influx of school orders can be managed. Kohl has asked for back to school orders as early as possible for several years.

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- Kohl will work with the school districts to place orders for "Center of the Plate" items four weeks ahead of expected delivery. This helps ensure that the center of the plate items (pizza, burgers, chicken, and any commodity items) are in the system and available for delivery. With the increasing inconsistencies in the manufacturer supply chain Kohl has found it helpful to enter these orders in with as much lead time as possible.
- Kohl asks that all orders are regularly placed minimally 48 hours before expected delivery. This allows all orders to be entered into the Kohl Allocation system. The further our orders are placed ahead of delivery, the better the allocation system works.
- Kohl Wholesale attempts to keep the same driver on routes from week to week. There will be emergencies, sickness, or vacations that will cause sub drivers to cover. This will happen minimally.
- Kohl understands that deliveries must be made to the proper temperature-controlled area of the kitchens.

Communication

- Our external DSR, Don Harder, will be the main consultant to maintain and improve upon service levels and product representation. Don will be assisted by his District Manager, Bill Boydston. Internally, day to day order entry (if needed) credits, returns, pickups, and other processing will be assisted by Keyan Christian. Support of Customer Service managers and Commodity Specialists will also be required for service excellence.
- It is expected that Don will physically visit the district at least weekly.
- Communication through Kohl Wholesale's commodity specialists would be advantageous. Su Keith and her team are available Monday thru Friday and can travel to meet in person if requested.

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Ordering

- Kohl proudly utilizes the Power Net web order entry system. This system has been in place for 6 years and has been updated three times. Please reference above explanation of the Power Net system. One pending update will allow Commodity users to see their items that have available balances to be highlighted in green. Conversely items that do not have remaining commodity balances will be highlighted in red.

Order Form from Dashboard

Customer: AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL - 04345
Order #: 42489 Ship Date: 04/09/2018

Items 1 - 3 of 3

Item #	Pack	Size	Brand	Description	N/S	Qty	Qty on Hand	Price	Portion Cost	Bid	Prev	Last Date	Ext Price
01804	1	96.4092	THEMAX	MAXIMAX TOTALLY TACO WIG		44	44						0.00
01806	1	96.4092	THEMAX	MAXIMAX CHICKEN WIG		11	11						0.00
01807	1	60.32	THEMAX	PIZZA CHEESE RND WIG		90	90						0.00

- Kohl Wholesale asks that all orders be placed on the Power Net system.
- Kohl will provide tutorials, user guides, and live training at no cost in order to ensure complete satisfaction of using the Power Net system.

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Narrative

- Kohl Wholesale has grown a reputation of being the premier K-12 distributor in the Midwest. We believe that we speak the unique language of K-12 better than any distributor. Our unique understanding of the competitive environment and state/federal compliance allow Kohl to cater specifically to the needs of K-12 operators. We believe that the expectations of the Iowa-Illinois School Cooperative are very rational and attainable.
- Our people truly make the difference when representing Kohl Wholesale. We believe with the experience of Sales and Customer Service teams, we are providing best in the industry support.
- In fiscal 2018 Kohl sold over \$75 million in the K-12 Category. In order to service our K-12 partners you have to be flexible, nimble, and quick. We feel that these traits are represented by Kohl Wholesale.

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KOHL WHOLESALE REFERENCE/EXPERIENCE SHEET

- Amy Guerrero (3 years)
Food Service Director North Scott
amy.guerrero@north-scott.k12.ia.us
200 South First Street
Eldridge, IA 52748
563-285-4598
- Jessica Haywood (3 Years)
Co-Op Administrator
LaSalle County Area Purchasing Co-Op
jhaywood@roe35.org
119 W. Madison Street
Courthouse Room 102 Ottawa, IL 61350
815-434-0780
- Ft. Zumwalt School District (11 years)
Paul Becker- Director of Nutrition Services
840 Lonestar Dr.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636-240-7170
pbecker@fz.k12.mo.us
- Rockwood School District (17 years)
Carmen Fischer- Child Nutrition Director
17146 Manchester Road
Wildwood, MO 63040-1001
636-733-3270
fischercarmen@rockwood.k12.mo.us
- Brian Johnson (13 years)
Food Service Director Burlington Public Schools
brian.johnson@bcsds.org
1020 Market Street
Burlington, Iowa 52601
319-753-0624
- Independence School District (9 years)
Brad Kramer- Director of Nutrition Services
14001 E. 32nd Street South
Independence, MO 64056
816-521-5371
Brad_kramer@isdschools.org
- Columbia School District (12 years)
Laina Fullum-Director of Nutrition Services
1818 West Worley St.
Columbia Mo.65203
573 214-3480
lfullum@columbia.k12.mo.us
- **Kohl Wholesale NON-Conflict of Interest**
 - Kohl Wholesale has no conflicts of interest that would cause any concerns with this Bid for the Iowa-Illinois School Food Cooperative.

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