

THE MONTHLY FEED - APRIL 2024

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NUTRITION SERVICES

Lincoln County School District

School Meals Gardens Food Pantry



NSLP ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW NOTES FROM ODE

Nutrition Services had its scheduled ODE Administrative Review in late March. The review covers health, safety, wellness, meal compliance, program management, civil rights, fiscal management, and record keeping. On average, Districts will receive 8-9 findings per review, we had 5. None of our findings resulted in serious deficiencies or fiscal action and are simple updates to our records or processes that have already been completed. USDA federal programs, including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), are some of the most highly regulated programs for schools. We are proud of these results and the staff that keep us in good standing.

From ODE: ODE appreciates the time and effort Lincoln County School District (LCSD) has allocated to the administrative review process and the graciousness extended to ODE staff. The off-site tool was completed thoroughly and displayed strong program knowledge and leadership with LCSD staff. All documents were submitted timely and follow up questions were responded to quickly. Of special note, LCSD's nutrition program produces a wonderful newsletter aimed at promoting all aspects of the LCSD nutrition program.

Nicely done!

During the review the entire school community, LCSD and FSMC staff, were friendly and welcoming. Excellent customer service and welcoming cafeteria environments were observed at all sites and students were treated with great respect. Oceanlake Elementary cafeteria was bright and welcoming with signs on display promoting food choices. Throughout the review all staff were professional, asked great questions, accepted feedback, and displayed a wonderful attitude to making any needed corrections. LCSD and FSMC staff displayed a strong commitment to improving the district's nutrition program. The district works hard to minimize paper waste by using reusable trays and silverware at all sites. The team at Waldport High School were friendly to students and excited about the meals they were serving.

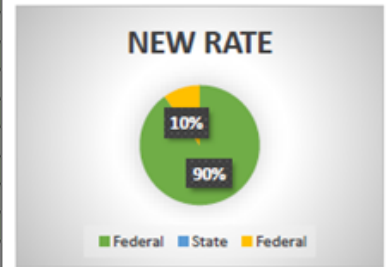
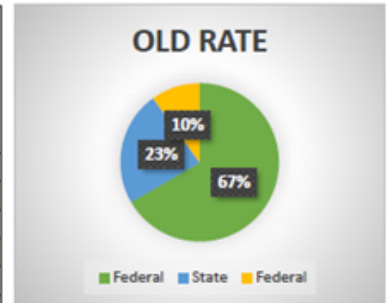
Schools with salad bars have a wide variety of food options to choose from including access to fresh fruits and vegetables and a variety of appealing entrees. Kitchens are clean, food handling practices are excellent, and strong food safety systems are in place. The line flows were efficient, and students did not have to wait long in line to be served.

LCSD displayed a strong partnership with Eddyville Charter School ensuring the items sold at the school are Smart Snack compliant with the exception of one item that will be corrected.

Additionally noted, LCSD completed the Local School Wellness Policy triennial assessment which was due by June 30, 2023. After multiple years of this assessment being delayed because of COVID waivers, it is impressive that LCSD stayed on top of the requirement and completed it timely. The school district also displayed strong financial processes including policies for a-la-carte milk sales, adult meal pricing, documentation for catering and equipment purchases, and internal controls.

2023-24 Updated CEP Poverty Rates - Lincoln County School District

School Name	23/24 Initial Identified Student Population (ISP)	Poverty Rate (1.6 factor)	23/24 Mid Year Identified Student Population (ISP)	New Poverty Rate (1.6 factor) (Use for Grants)	Poverty Rate Increase
Crestview Heights School	51.33%	82.13%	59.50%	95.20%	13.07%
Eddyville Charter School	37.02%	59.23%	49.29%	78.86%	19.63%
LC Career Tech High School	54.55%	87.28%	71.05%	100.00%	12.72%
Newport High School	36.36%	58.18%	48.15%	77.04%	18.86%
Newport Middle School	31.41%	50.26%	53.27%	85.23%	34.97%
Oceanlake Elementary School	57.74%	82.78%	69.93%	100.00%	17.22%
Olalla Center	40.00%	64.00%	75.00%	100.00%	36.00%
Sam Case Elementary	43.73%	69.95%	56.72%	90.75%	20.80%
Taft Elementary School	36.04%	57.66%	64.19%	100.00%	42.34%
Taft High School	48.88%	78.21%	56.68%	90.69%	12.48%
Toledo Elementary School	50.74%	81.18%	62.42%	99.87%	18.69%
Toledo Senior High School	40.07%	64.11%	51.97%	83.15%	19.04%
Waldport High School	41.55%	66.48%	56.82%	90.91%	24.43%
Yaquina View Elementary	42.53%	68.05%	55.36%	88.58%	20.53%
District Wide	41.66%	66.66%	56.69%	90.70%	24.04%



CEP-Community Eligibility Provision

Calculations are done each April for the following school year and are good for 4 years, but districts can re-calculate each year to get a better rate of reimbursement. Due to changes in the USDA guidelines, schools can now add Medicaid recipients as Direct Certifications in their Free & Reduced Calculations. This change increased the number of identified students and allowed a one-time Mid-Year recertification option which we used.

Funding Example - Lunch	% of Meals Reimbursed		
	Original	New	
Federal Reimbursement at "Free" Rate	66.66%	90.00%	
State Reimbursement from SSA at "Free" Rate	23.34%	0.00%	Shifted to more reliable Federal Funding
Total % of Meals Reimbursed at "Free" Rate	90.00%	90.00%	
Federal Reimbursement at "Paid" Rate **	10.00%	10.00%	
	100.00%	100.00%	

**District must cover the difference between the Free and Paid rates and any decrease in reimbursements from excess earnings in other nutrition programs such as breakfast.

Other Comments

State money can be limited and big districts had already been anxious about covering a shortfall in coming years. LCSD will not need to rely on State funds at all. This helps to ensure a well funded Nutrition Services Program. These numbers are locked in for 4 years which guarantees free meals for all students until we are required to recertify for 27/28. LCSD boundaries include the entire county so this certification ensures off-site after-school and summer meal sites are CEP eligible county-wide. This also ensures that home daycares can use our eligibility to qualify for USDA nutrition programs. Additionally, it ensures that all students are eligible for State EBT programs. These are the numbers we use when applying for grants.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR SCHOOL GARDENS?

Lincoln County School District Nutrition Services has been awarded \$67, 873 in grant funds from ODE to support the completion of school gardens at both Toledo Elementary and Toledo Jr/Sr High Schools in 2024-25. Garden Coordinator Sara Gibson is putting the finishing touches on the Sam Case Elementary Garden and will be shifting her focus to the Toledo Area starting the summer of 2024. Completion is expected to be done by August 2025.



Custom Built Garden Shed for Sam Case Elementary

WHAT'S GROWING ON?

-LCSD SCHOOL GARDENS-

WHY GROW MUSHROOMS?

NMS school gardeners harvested their first batch of shiitake mushrooms this spring. Shiitake mushrooms grow on hardwood logs and are loaded with nutrition. A serving of shiitake mushrooms provides:

- Riboflavin: 11% of the Daily Value (DV)
- Niacin: 11% of the DV
- Copper: 39% of the DV
- Vitamin B5: 33% of the DV
- Selenium: 10% of the DV
- Manganese: 9% of the DV
- Zinc: 8% of the DV
- Vitamin B6: 7% of the DV
- Folate: 6% of the DV
- Vitamin D: 6% of the DV



Even if students don't want to eat mushrooms, growing them is a fascinating way to learn about nutrient cycling and they are fun to cultivate. NMS students drilled holes in alder logs and hammered in inoculated shiitake plugs. In about 8 months we will get our next harvest.

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM (FFVP)



The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) is an important tool in our effort to combat childhood obesity. The program has been successful in introducing elementary school children (K-8) to a variety of produce that they otherwise might not have the opportunity to sample. This month's menu includes: Mini Cucumbers, Dragon Fruit, Lemon Plums, Magic Sunrise Apples, Dekopon Tangerine and Jicama.

DID YOU KNOW?

Jicama is a member of the potato family and can weigh up to 50 pounds!

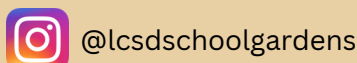


HELPING HANDS

A big thank you to the Newport High ECEL program for your support at the District food pantry warehouse. Your help makes a difference!



Want to be part of an amazing team?
Go to us.sodexo.com or call (541) 336-2156.



joke of the month

Q: What is a pretzel's favorite dance?

A: The Twist!



Reminder-Save The Date!

Come learn about USDA/ODE guidelines and restrictions, and give input on the Nutrition Services programs offered in Lincoln County Schools. We are always trying to make things better for our students!

UPDATE: Due to the lack of interest from the community, we will try for a later date. Please let us know if you would like to get involved.

Email Jamie at jamie.nicholson@lincoln.k12.or.us if you are interested in participating!