



December 18, 2023

Dear NIIPC Member Districts,

Thank you for your continued commitment to our cooperative purchasing on behalf of all of our school nutrition programs. As you know, the cooperative has played a critical role in the State of Illinois in support of meal programs since 1995. The cooperative is now 74 member districts, purchasing over \$28 million in food and supplies for independently operated meal programs.

In efforts to keep our Cooperative sustainable for many years to come, we have decided to change our governance structure. For the past 28 years, the Oak Park River Forest High School District has been our governing body that approved all formal bid recommendations. As of July 1, 2024, the NIIPC will have its own governing board that will govern the cooperative. Please review the Summary of Restated Articles of Joint Agreement and Bylaws ([link](#)) to understand in more detail the Power, Duties and Structure of the Cooperative.

The NIIPC has met with the Illinois State Board of Education, Nutrition & Wellness Division to review these changes in structure and are confident that we will continue to meet all [child nutrition procurement requirements](#) within our new structure. The NIIPC will continue to work directly with ISBE on our member districts' behalf.

Due to the restructure, we ask each Member District to review this information with their Board of Education and get the Board signature on the Restated Articles of Joint Agreement and Bylaws ([link](#)). This signature shall be provided back to the cooperative by April 1, 2024 to confirm commitment to continued participation in the cooperative. If due to board meeting timing, you are unable to return the signed agreement by the date stated above, please notify us.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at niipcinfo@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Micheline Piekarski

Micheline Piekarski, MSM, SNS
President, NIIPC

Sandy Voss

Sandy Voss, RD, SNS
Vice President, NIIPC

Attachments