

NUTRITION SERVICES

Livonia Public Schools

Memorandum

TO: Philip Francis

FROM: Kristen Hennessey and Pat Schuchardt

CC: Alison Smith

DATE: 03/27/17

SUBJECT: Point of Sale Recommendation

The Nutrition Department currently uses a module in MiStar for the point of sale process during breakfast and lunch. MiStar is part of the support services that Wayne RESA provides. Wayne RESA in 2014 made a decision to bid out this part of the program to get a point of sale program that would be more robust and meet the changing USDA requirements. The committee reviewed several bids and Horizon One Source was selected as the vendor to meet the needs of the county.

Throughout the last two years, several districts have transitioned into the new program. The Horizon One Source program offers a web-based option called Solana. This is the option that surrounding districts are moving to. The new program provides many features that would be a great value to Livonia students and parents.

The program provides free and reduced applications that can be completed on-line. This will equate to easier and faster approval for the families. The system is cloud based and even if internet connection is lost schools can proceed to record meals in offline. There is an app download that has the ability for parents to be notified of low balances, make payments, and monitor student purchases. Time is limited for lunch service and the Solana program provides the ability to move students through the line quicker by queuing up the numbers up as they wait in line. There are safeguards in place with the system, to prevent double meals and false depositing. Attached is a side by side comparison of MiStar and Solana.

From an audit standpoint, the system provides detailed information and accessible back up to validate and correlate with state reporting. The annual system cost is \$19,685. There will be an initial training cost of \$3,794.75.

We would like to make the recommendation that the District Nutrition Department move to Solana for all schools. With the new system we look forward to improved access and accountability.