

# NOTES



## Child Nutrition & Wellness Advisory Council Meeting

**Thursday, May 1, 2025**  
**USD 305 District Office**  
**1511 Gypsum Avenue**  
**Salina, Kansas 67401**

### **Welcome, Introductions & Celebrations**

Attendees – Teresa Houston, Hallee Canfield-Jones, Davonna Daharsh, Patti Dollarhide, Heidi Wells, Kaoutar Yartaoui, Brittney Grother, Shelly Gunderson, Michelle Jarboe, Lisa Ross, Kelly Whitehair, Adam Inman, Todd Wollard, Melissa Koehn, Jessica Kejr, Kris Nicholson, Kelly Cahill, Kelly Horn, Camille Pickhinke, Barb Depew, Eryn Davis, Holly Steinlage, Emily Bonilla, Jeanie Galemore, Kirsten Angell, Lynette Osner, Kelly Chanay

- Certificate in Child Nutrition Programs – Eight recipients were recognized at the May State Board meeting for completing 120 hours of approved management classes.
- Healthier CACFP award – USD 475, recognized. A presentation on site is planned.
- Recognizing Retirees – Please let your child nutrition consultant know of upcoming retirements so KSDE Child Nutrition & Wellness can recognize them with a letter and certificate.
- CACFP Child Nutrition Professional Award – P0639, The Growing Place in Humboldt, recognized. Sarah Kennington, Authorized Representative.
- Shared about USD 445 Coffeyville's grant projects supporting local foods.

### **CNW Team & Administrative Updates**

- Facebook page: Child Nutrition and Wellness page launching soon; Kelly will be administrator. Please send pictures and stories.
- Legislation: legislative post audit, Reduced Price Co-Pay, Tier 1 reimbursement for CACFP, CEP verification of all households, Early Childhood bills, LFSCC cancelled, Licenses for daycare homes to still participate in CACFP, Office of Early Childhood. Thank you to KS Appleseed for legislative efforts. Kelly encouraged programs to visit with elected representatives.
- Staffing: Katy Hatch moving to new role Public Service Executive, second developer for technology grant, hiring to fill admin position
- Technical assistance visit for new ARs/FSDs
- In person TA visits available
- In-services available for a minimum of 25 with eight weeks notice
- Continue to offer Town Halls except June and July
- Recording Town Hall will not happen since it is just-in-time delivery
- Monthly Updates sent out the first full week of month
- KSU interns now doing K-12; 4-6 week rotation for foodservice available
- Including claim deadlines in May update

**School Nutrition Program (SNP)**

- **Program & technology updates from CNW**

- SNP renewal available after the May 15<sup>th</sup> Town Hall
- Direct Certification List- will be able to export in KN-CLAIM; important to have designated user assigned
- FFVP – award amount will be in KN-CLAIM; with grant amount update by each claim
- Pre-verification worksheet updates next fall. Student columns open October 31st
- FFVP/Buy American – FFVP purchases do not need to follow the Buy American Provision
- Buy American – USDA released Buy American Exception Form, implementing an accommodation process for Buy American
- Paid Lunch Equity Tool – waiting for guidance from USDA
- DGA Final Rule – July 1<sup>st</sup> sugar limits going into effect: Breakfast cereals, yogurt, flavored milk. After school Snack meal pattern is aligning with the CACFP (grain-based desserts)
- Healthier Kansas Menus – Revision was planned for this Spring, now pushed to Fall using updated software. Looking for sponsors to assist with testing.

- **SNP training updates**

- Procurement Training – webinar offered May 22; Required completion by June 30<sup>th</sup>
- Annual SNP Admin Training – June 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Annual SNP/CACFP (combined) Admin Training- July 8
- Menu planning for school meals – in person 6 locations across the state in June and July. Also will provide virtual trainings
- Culinary Coaches – Nine coaches trained to teach four modules developed to provide to sponsors
- Baking Boot Camp in July – Day 1-Quick Breads; Day 2 Yeast Breads; Topeka and Garden City
- SNA Annual Conference- October 3-5 with Director's retreat on Friday
- Collaboration with KSU for Jump Start for New Directors in October
- All trainings listed on CNW calendar on the website [CNW Calendar](#)

- **SNP Group work**

- Resources needed: 1) a roadmap for new FSDs; 2) Need a one-pager with where to start & find information. 3) Regional Peer to Peer learning with monthly calls. CNW has a lot of great information and resources, but new FSDs have no idea where to find them. 4) KS Food Bank Feeding America has “yammer groups” (listserv format, participant profile, consider a regional model across all CNPs, possibly tier by size) place to propose a question, processes are posted, etc. KSRE has something similar “tier groups” the tier groups are relatable as they are doing the same things. 5) Explain the ‘why’ Need to communicate with administration about reimbursable meals, etc. also educating foodservice staff on the “why”.
- Successes/challenges: 1) returning to self-operated; 2) need marketing/education campaign templates that districts can use to education faculty, educators, parents, community, elected officials, 3) mitigating stigma around the programs including language around inclusivity with participating in the meal programs. 4) Success is resources available from CNW. 5) USD 475, iPad surveys from the kids as they leave cafeteria.
- Training needs: 1) Networking opportunities; 2) In person trainings; 3) CNCs providing TA when new programs/program operators added; 4) how to evaluate a FSMC contract 5) depends on the subject- Zoom meetings do have value for limiting travel

**Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP)**

- **Program & technology updates from CNW**
  - 2026 site/sponsor application launching in August
  - Discussing adding an MFR in KN-Claim
  - Annual Financial Review for sponsors with more than one center
  - Added sugars change from total sugars, change occurring October 1
  - Homes in KS can only participate in a home – CNW submitted guidance to MPRO to define this & the look and feel of a home
  - CACFP during the summer foodservice program – providers cannot pick up meals for kids; they must be present
- **CACFP training updates**
  - Cape portal – talked with KCCTO on the rollout of the Cape platform for provider training for CNW trainings
  - Home Sponsor Jump Start training May 6-7, Topeka
  - Culinary Coaches applicable to CACFP – 4 modules available
  - Jump Start for Centers – hopefully in the fall. Planning training needs assessment for all programs
  - Kelly Horn is working with Beth Carlton to do combined culinary training with providers.
- **CACFP Group work**
  - Resources needed: 1) Short and Concise Training needed for University FS Contractor to provide labels, recipes, etc. and communicate when different product is substituted. 2) Challenge to get Unaffiliated sites to implement meal times, etc. at site level. 3) Split admin training by homes, centers, etc because it can be very overwhelming without knowing program history/operations as a new person; 4) A decision tree for different types within the CACFP; 5) a help guide needed in KN-Claim showing resources for topic.
  - Training needs: 1) Annual training “back to the basics” – new staff and cooking/ culinary basics. 2) Appreciate the video trainings and using Food Safety Basics. 3) It is helpful to have CNW trainings overlap with KDHE training requirements. 4) need basic skills for point of service for staff that are new. 5) Appreciate customer service from CNW staff. 6) Training videos are convenient for staff to take whenever they are available. 7) Are iPads a good resource to provide for centers for trainings? Most centers are already using iPads for other center related things. For privately owned centers, this may be a good starting point for them. 8) Teaching the “why” is important, especially the difference between the programs. 9) Understanding the differences between the programs. 10) Taking the KSDE trainings into an area where you could get multiple center staff in the same place at once. 11) More basic meal pattern trainings for new staff. 12) Homes Sponsoring Organizations would like to see a set admin rate rather than based on providers. 13) TA for new directors. 14) Wish SD process wasn’t as confusing and time consuming. 14) Bring back in person training. 15) Wellness Wednesday were great. 16) Good support with trainings. 17) consider a ‘Yammer’ group.
  - Successes: 1) partnering together and with community partners. 2) Having one consultant is very nice. 3) collaboration with other sponsors 4) Successes was the governors proclamation.

**Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)**

- **Program & technology updates from CNW**
  - Summer meal counting app is slowly getting closer
  - Changes to sponsor and site applications in KN-Claim
  - Integrity plans – being more connected with the communities and how to prevent duplicate meals



- **SFSP training updates**
  - Annual Admin Training – due may 15
  - Any sponsors wishing to serve non-congregate meals – due may 15
  - Best practice webinars
  - Serving Safe Summer Meals
  - Business Cards for SFSP
- **Group work**
  - Successes: 1) D0210- Non congregate site at the pool is very successful. 2) D0210 Drive through site – sticker on the vehicles shows how many meals they can get. 3) D0210 Do an alteration between cold and hot meals. 4) D0210 Admin perspective/support is key. 5) D0210 Success in advocating for non-traditional service times such as 9-10 AM, 5-6 PM.
  - Training Needs: 1) Request from CNW for Harvesters to be a training site for other new sponsors like mentors. 2) Would like to see opportunities for sponsors to visit other sponsors to see new ideas.

### Farm to Plate

- **Program updates from CNW**
  - Farm to Plate Grant
  - SCBG
- **Group work**
  - Successes/challenges: 1) How to publicize positive stories with grant outcomes. 2) Grants are great, but districts who don't have time to write a grant or don't know how.
  - Resources needed: 1) Funding to help grant sustainability for administration (such as running the greenhouse, etc.); 2) Need articles on outcomes to the commodity groups. 3) Resources for grant writing.
  - Training needs: 1) Partnerships with organizations to help with grant writing. Trying to make grants more sustainable. 3) Marketing economic impact on ranchers/producers and community.

### Report out from the day (Aha moments) & next steps for CNW

- Enjoyed the layout of how the Advisory Council was held this time. Good connections made through Advisory Council.
- Can do things like salad bars, etc like other programs
- Networking was great. Learn more about the programs each time.
- Reassuring that each sponsor is experiencing the same struggles and trying to work together
- CNW: helping people understand the why.
- Networking/mentoring/support system.
- CNW resources are available but a decision tree/flow chart would be helpful.
- Marketing benefits of our programs.
- Need to look at training from a basic level and not put in too much detail.
- Allowing networking time – sharing between sponsors for training.



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