

# North Carolina Child Nutrition Weekly Update



Week of February 10-14, 2014

Issue No. 2014.2-2

## New this Week

- REMINDER – Keeping SFA Contact Information Current
- Policy Update Meetings Rescheduled Due to Inclement Weather
- SNA-NC Regional Meeting Invitation [1 Attachment]
- Weekly Q&A – NC Safe Plate
- February NC Farm to School Newsletter & Sweet Potato Month
- Food Recalls
- What's New on the Web?

## Recap

- Update on the Smart Snacks Interim Final Rule [1 Attachment]
- 2014 Subway School Health Champion [1 Attachment]
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- School Kitchen Capacity and Inventory Survey
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# TRP

Becoming the  
Totally Responsible  
Person

## TRP Foundational Principle #7

*We help others to mature and become more responsible—to grow—by not rescuing or enabling any of their victim thoughts, attitudes or behaviors.*

Find the Nine Foundational Principles and a host of other information and resources on the TRP Enterprises, Inc., website at:  
<http://www.trpnet.com/foundational-principles/>

## **REMINDER – Keeping SFA Contact Information Current**

Child Nutrition Administrators, this is a reminder that is absolutely imperative for you to ensure that the contact information for your SFA is kept current at all times in the Technology System. This includes the SFA application and the Site applications. In addition, should there be a change in leadership (including the Superintendent) new agreement signature pages must be signed and submitted to Child Nutrition Services. Among other reasons, keeping this information current will ensure that we address and send communications to the correct individuals and that you all receive our communications in a timely manner.

Should you have questions or need assistance with updating your online application please contact your regional consultant or Karla Wheeler at [karla.wheeler@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:karla.wheeler@dpi.nc.gov).

## **Policy Update Meetings Rescheduled Due to Inclement Weather**

Due to the recent weather events across the state several Policy Update Meetings and SNA regional meetings have been scheduled. Please review the following schedule changes and plan accordingly. Should you have questions please contact the Child Nutrition consultants for your region.

**Region 5 Policy Update Meeting – Thursday, March 13**

**Region 6 Policy Update Meeting – Friday, February 28**

**Region 7 Policy Update Meeting – Wednesday, Feb 26, 2014 in Hickory**

## **SNA-NC Regional Meeting Invitation**

The Region 4 SNA-NC District Meeting is scheduled for February 27 at 3:00 pm at Bladenboro Middle School. Rep. Ken Waddell has confirmed his attendance and he will also bring special remarks to the audience. For more information and details please review the attached invitation letter.

Thanks!

***Amy M. Stanley***  
*Bladen County Schools*  
*Director of Child Nutrition*  
910-862-4136 x149  
[amstanley@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:amstanley@bladen.k12.nc.us)

**reg4 sna-nc.pdf**

## Weekly Q&A – NC Safe Plate

**QUESTION:** What is *NC Safe Plate*?

**ANSWER:** *NC Safe Plate* is a new Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) Course developed jointly by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Child Nutrition Services Section and the North Carolina State University Co-operative Extension. The course will provide instruction and an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited CFPM examination for the Person in Charge (PIC) of a food establishment as specified in Paragraphs 2-102.12(A) and Section 2-102.20 of the NC Food Code Manual.

The course will initially be offered free of charge to a limited number of PICs as a pilot project beginning in May 2012. The registration information will be announced in a future Child Nutrition Weekly Update so that CN Administrators may share the course information with managers needing to become a CFPM by August 2014.

## February N.C. Farm to School Newsletter & Sweet Potato Month

The February 2014 Farm to School Newsletter has been released. This month's newsletter features highlights from visits to North Carolina apple growers, a reminder about the February Sweet Potato promotion and resources available from the N.C. Sweet Potato Commission, and what's on the N.C. Farm to School truck this month. To view or download the February newsletter visit:

<http://www.ncfarmtoschool.com/htm/newsletter/documents/2014FebruaryFTSNewsletter.pdf>

### Sweet Potato Month

February is Sweet Potato Month and the N.C. Sweet Potato Commission is once again sponsoring a contest for schools. So check out the contest rules, registration form and suggested activities and plan to Show Your Love for N.C. Sweet Potatoes in February at: <http://www.ncfarmtoschool.com/htm/promotions/index.htm>

Don't forget that all entries for the N.C. Farm to School calendar contest are due by February 28. Details can be found on the N.C. Farm to School website, [www.ncfarmtoschool.com](http://www.ncfarmtoschool.com).

For questions about the newsletter or N.C. Farm to School, please contact:

Heather Barnes  
Marketing Specialist  
NCDA&CS  
919-707-3127  
[heather.barnes@ncagr.gov](mailto:heather.barnes@ncagr.gov)

## Food Recalls

*We are aware that the recall notifications we receive may or may not pertain to any public or charter schools in North Carolina. However, we strive to keep you as well informed as possible by posting any recalls that could potentially cause problems in your school meal programs. Please be sure to review the official recall notices at the web locations provided. Should a recall apply to items currently in your inventory, please follow the instructions provided in the recall notice.*

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### **Tomatoes**

Big Red Tomato Packers, LLC of Fort Pierce, FL is voluntarily issuing a limited recall of 790 - 20 and 25 lb. boxes of fresh tomatoes of lot 1106, because they may have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella. Salmonella is an organism which can cause serious infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems.

This is a voluntary precautionary recall as there are no known illnesses associated with this lot number. Tomatoes from the lot were distributed to a limited number of receivers in Florida, North Carolina, Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Tennessee. All receivers of the lot have been notified.

For detailed information pertaining to this recall visit:

[http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm385209.htm?source=govdelivery&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm385209.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

### **Uncle Ben's Rice**

Government officials are investigating a cluster of illnesses associated with Uncle Ben's Infused Rice Mexican Flavor sold in 5- and 25-pound bags. Out of an abundance of caution, the FDA is warning food service companies and consumers not to use any Uncle Ben's Infused Rice products sold in 5- and 25-pound bags. These products are sold to food service companies that typically distribute to restaurants, schools, hospitals and other commercial establishments. However, the products may be available over the Internet and at warehouse-type retailers. Food service companies and consumers who have purchased the products should not use the rice, and should return it to their point of purchase or dispose of it. Uncle Ben's Brand Ready to Heat, Boxed, Bag or Cup products sold at grocery stores and other retail outlets are not being recalled.

For detailed information about this warning you may view the FDA press release at:

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm385299.htm>

## What's New on the Web?

### **Chart of Accounts**

The Chart of Accounts for the 2013-14 school year have been posted on the Financial Management page at: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/front-page/information-resources/financial-management> . Should you have questions about this information please contact Janet Johnson at [janet.williamsjohnson@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:janet.williamsjohnson@dpi.nc.gov).

## Meal Patterns

The National School Lunch Program Meal Patterns for breakfast and lunch are now available on the website. To view/download these documents visit the Meal and Planning and Production page at: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/front-page/information-resources/menu-planning-production> . The meal pattern for the After School Snack Program will be posted by next week. If you have questions about the Meal Patterns please contact your regional consultant.

## Update on the Smart Snacks Interim Final Rule

As you may know, the Federal budget that was recently signed into law by President Obama included a directive to the Secretary of Agriculture regarding the implementation of the Smart Snacks Interim final Rule. Specifically, the directive requires USDA to establish a waiver process that will provide SFAs the option to delay implementing the new standards contained in the competitive foods rule and the breakfast meal pattern IF these regulations are proving to be too costly. The letter to the Secretary of Agriculture is attached for your review.

While we do not know how USDA will respond to this directive, we do encourage each SFA to begin the process of making projections about the financial impact of the new a la carte and breakfast program nutrition standards on operating costs (food, labor, equipment, other) in your school nutrition programs. We will notify you as soon as USDA notifies us about the waiver process.

[ltr to sec vilsack.pdf](#)

## 2014 Subway School Health Champion

Please see the attached documents announcing the 2014 Subway School Health Champion of the Year Award. This is your chance to nominate a deserving individual who goes well beyond the usual work expectations in order to advance the health of students and/or staff.

The following North Carolina counties are eligible to submit nominations based on Subway Market participation:

Chatham	Harnett	Person
Cumberland	Hoke	Sampson
Durham	Johnston	Vance
Edgecombe	Lee	Wake
Franklin	Moore	Warren
Granville	Nash	Wayne
Halifax	Orange	Wilson

Submit nominations on or by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for ongoing selection committee evaluation. All nominations will be reviewed and considered for the entire calendar year. Earn prestige, visibility, and funding for your school health program!

I look forward to receiving your nominations.

Burt Jenkins, M.A.Ed., Healthful Living Consultant  
NCDPI, 6349 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-6349  
919-807-3637 [Burt.Jenkins@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Burt.Jenkins@dpi.nc.gov)

[subway nomination.doc](#)

## 2014 Best Practices Awards

The US Department of Agriculture has announced the Twenty First Annual Best Practice Awards in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) and Food Distribution Program (FDP). The purpose of this program is to encourage and reward outstanding practices in schools and in School Food Authorities (SFAs) in the Southeast Region Please review the attached Best Practice Awards information for 2014. **All nominations are due on or before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2014.** Electronic documents or fax transmissions will not be accepted. Please review the attached document for entry details and criteria along with the nomination entry forms.

All entries should be sent or delivered to: **North Carolina Department of Public Instruction  
Child Nutrition Services Section  
301 N. Wilmington Street  
6324 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6324  
Attention: Pat Brafford**

Should you have any questions please contact your Regional Consultants.

[2014 best practice award.doc](#)

## School Kitchen Capacity and Inventory Survey

**DON'T GET LEFT OUT:**

**MAKE YOUR KITCHEN COUNT!**

Please remember to take part in the Kitchen Capacity Survey

In an effort to understand the capacity of school kitchens in North Carolina, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is working with the School of Government at UNC Chapel Hill and the Center for Environmental Farming Systems at NC State to survey Child Nutrition Directors and cafeteria managers about kitchens in their schools. **Child Nutrition Directors are encouraged to fill out the survey unless they need to pass the link to a cafeteria manager more familiar with an individual kitchen.** We need one survey for each individual school kitchen. If you are the person who can best describe the capacity or

inventory of an individual school kitchen, please complete the survey found at the following link:

[https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_9AY5DImVYq0gtF3](https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9AY5DImVYq0gtF3)

This survey link will be active from until **February 25, 2014**. We need your help learning about kitchen infrastructure, equipment, staffing, and training. The survey should take approximately 10 minutes. The results will be delivered as a report to DPI and will also be made available to you. Your participation is voluntary and you are not required to participate.

Thank you so much for helping with this important study. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us directly at the email addresses below. Thank you for your time and all you do for North Carolina children.

Best regards,

Andrew George, Ph.D.  
Evaluation Director  
School of Government  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Cell: 828 280 6956  
[andrewg@unc.edu](mailto:andrewg@unc.edu)

## Mark Your Calendar

\*\*February 15 (Saturday) ..... Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Deadline (for January 2014)  
February 19-20 ..... NCDCA New Director/Supervisor Training (Butner, NC)  
February 21 ..... Region 8 Policy Update (Asheville, NC)  
February 22 ..... SNA-NC District I Meeting (Roper, NC)  
February 26 ..... Region 7 Policy Update Meeting (Hickory, NC)  
February 27 ..... Region 4 SNA-NC District Meeting (Bladenboro Middle School)  
February 28 ..... Region 1 Policy Update (Edenton, NC)  
February 28 ..... Region 6 Policy Update Meeting  
February 28 ..... Deadline for submitting Paid Lunch Equity Tool to the State Agency  
Month of March ..... National Nutrition Month  
March 3-7 ..... National School Breakfast Week  
March 2-5 ..... SNA Legislative Action Conference (Washington, DC)  
**Registration Information:** <http://docs.schoolnutrition.org/meetingsandevents/lac2014/registration.asp>  
March 3 ..... December Financial Report Due  
March 10 (Monday) ..... Deadline for Submitting Claim for Reimbursement (for February 2014)  
March 11 ..... Best Practice Award Nominations Deadline for Submission to NCDPI

March 12 .....	Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day
March 13 .....	Region 5 Policy Update Meeting
March 15 .....	Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Deadline (for February 2014)
April 10 (Thursday) .....	Deadline for Submitting Claim for Reimbursement (for March 2014)
April 15 (Tuesday) .....	Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Deadline (for March 2014)

**\*\*When a deadline/due date falls on a weekend or holiday.**

1. When the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month falls on a weekend or holiday the deadline for submitting the claim for reimbursement is the next business day which is usually Monday. In the event that the following Monday is a holiday then the deadline moves to the next business day.
2. **REMEMBER**...the CN Technology system is programmed to flag any claim for reimbursement that is submitted after the 10<sup>th</sup> with the "10 day" error message (Error Code 1401). The system does not differentiate a week day from a week end day. The NCDPI Child Nutrition section and the Claims section are fully aware of this and the Claims department will automatically override that error message for any claims submitted in this time period. *It is not necessary to contact the Child Nutrition office when you receive the error message in this situation.*
3. If a claim for reimbursement is submitted after the 10<sup>th</sup> for any other reason, you must contact the NCDPI Child Nutrition office.
4. This also applies to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for which the claim for reimbursement is due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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Under the Federal Child Nutrition Program and USDA policy, discrimination is prohibited under the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complain Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) , or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov) . Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."