

Week of  
September  
23<sup>rd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>

# Nutritional Services Weekly Newsletter

Issue 1

## Feeding your children Today.

We first want to thank all of you for your patience while we have tried to figure out the best way to serve all students in each of the schools and at home while distance learning. The free meals waiver that we qualified for at the beginning of September has helped us develop the program we are trying to expand every day. The learning curve for serving the AA, BB and distance learning students for all schools at all levels has been enormous, but feeding hungry children is our job. We will do whatever it takes to get the job done.

We are not sure if parents know, all meals must be individually packaged and delivered to every classroom, district wide, every day, just before school and just before lunch. This has presented us with many challenges on logistics, and therefore forced us to reduced menu choices for now.

We want to assure everyone that we have made positive changes to the program daily as we learn new techniques and more efficient processes to make these new systems work.

## Menu changes.

We have had many challenges getting all the things/food in the quantities we need in order to run all the kitchens. We have made great strides changing menus working with vendors, and matching what items are currently available to us that still fit into the USDA nutritional guidelines. Starting Sept 21<sup>st</sup> we were able to start a second entrée at lunch for all sites. Breakfast is a challenge because we do not know what the kids want each day before they get to school, so it will stay at one choice for Oct. With our finalized menus for October we feel that it will be 95% accurate for breakfast and lunch at all levels. This will make it easier for children to know what is on the menu each day before they get to school. The **Distance Learning Meal Distribution (DLMD)** menu will depend on distribution of goods the prior week trying to keep waste to a minimum.

## Distance Learning Meals!

The distance learning meals have leveled out at just over 6,000 meals each Wednesday for the last 2 weeks. We expect that we will still slowly grow, but we feel that we are ready for the **next level** of parent orders. Starting this week we have set up a special link (below) that will allow parents to put in a **standing order** for the weekly **Distance Learning Meal Distribution (DLMD)**. This means that parents can fill this out only **once** for as long as this program is operational, but they are committing to pick up meals every Wednesday at the site they specify. If a family that has a standing order cannot make it for whatever reason and **can't get somebody else to pick up the meals for them**, they must cancel their order using the "Cancel Meal" link that will start next week. We cannot afford to make up all the meals and be stuck literally holding the bag. Our staff will brave the winter weather and make sure your kids are fed, but we expect everyone to follow through on their commitment to pick up the food that was ordered.

## Pre-Order Distance learning Meals Here (DLMD)

Here is the link for the weekly order for meal pick up on Wednesday the 30th

[DLMD week 9/30-10/6](#)

Here is the link that will allow you to put in a standing **order 1 time only** for as long as the program is running

[DLMD Standing order link](#)

## October Menus.

<https://helenaps.sodexomyway.com/landing>

If you want to access all the menus here is the link for all the programs, including the distance learning meals