

School Lunch Tray Table Talk Transcript: February 25, 2021

Presenters: Shannon Yearwood, Teri Dandeneau, Caroline Cooke, Susan Alston, Monica Pacheco, Michelle Rosado (Hostess)

0:04

Hi everybody, and welcome to our School Lunch Tray Table Talk I'm Shannon Yearwood with the Connecticut State Department of Education, and I am pleased to be joined by my Child Nutrition teammates today.

0:16

As you can see, we are a busy crew, and we're trying to make sure that we have given you all the information you need, so

0:22

So as a reminder, the School Lunch Tray is going to take a deeper dive into the School Lunch Tray that you receive the Wednesday of the week that we are doing the Table Talk, but it also serves as our office hours. We want to know, we know this is a very strange time out there, so we want to make sure that we're available for any sort of questions you have, and I see we already have some questions in the question box, and that makes it just delighted. So thank you. Certainly communicate with us. Let us know, they're calling a table to talk to keep it casual.

0:55

We will make sure that you have the opportunity to interact.

0:58

Don't limit your questions to what we have included in the School Lunch Tray.

1:03

Um certainly, this is a great time to access to us and let us know, you know, you can use that question feature to tell us a particular scenario.

1:10

If we've heard of that scenario happening for other sponsors, we will certainly address it, if we can, in this Table Talk, If we think it's pretty individualized to what you are experiencing, we will let you know, and then, we'll reach out to you and help you problem solve.

1:24

So, I'm really excited to have you join us today. Thanks so much for telling your friends every time that we do these each week, we have more people participating, and that is just thrilling to us. Because more people participate, the more we're on the same page and the more we can work to make sure that there's no more kids going hungry out there, because they can have access to these programs.

1:43

Oh, with that, I am going to be, unfortunately Fionnuala is not able to join us today. She sends her greetings and she's here with us in spirit, as always so. I'm gonna go ahead and pass it off to Teri to talk about our first item in the School Lunch Tray today, and we'll see a few of us today. Hang in there, and let us know what's on your mind.

2:04

With that Teri.

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2:06

Speaker 2 - Thanks, Shannon. Um, so as Shannon said, the very first item in the School Lunch Tray had to do with professional standard standards requirements for school nutrition programs.

2:15

And this specifically focused on the National School Lunch Program and the, our School Breakfast Program and included the Seamless Summer Option Program, which is really a branch of the National School Lunch Program.

2:30

And so it included the chart, and we're just reminding sponsors that you are required to participate, and to um track, and get your professional standards um, organized, and make sure that your staff is trained according to what USDA has outlined.

2:53

And we have the State Department of Education has a great website that's targeted for professional standards, and we encourage you to take a look at that website.

3:02

It has everything from the implementation guidance, too.

3:07

Tracking the professional standards and there's a couple of tracking tools. There's one USDA tool, as well as the State Department of Education's tool.

3:14

You don't have to use them. They're there for your, you know review, and if you want to use them, you certainly can do so, But there are some required elements that have to be part of your tracking tools.

3:26

And then also um, there's training for professional standards that is provided or there's links that are provided on the website as well.

3:34

I want to encourage all of you and to remember about the Institute of Child Nutrition.

3:40

And make sure that if you are, um having difficulty finding trainings or workshops for your staff.

3:48

Go check out ICN and they have some great resources for you, as well as the School Nutrition Association.

3:55

They also have resources that you can use the webinars to train your staff.

4:01

And so um I'm going to turn it over to Caroline who wants to talk about the Summer Food Service Program.

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4:09

Speaker 3 - Thank you Teri. Some of you are operating under the Summer Food Service program rather than NSLP or so at this point, so we just want to let you know, obviously, following the professional standards as normal as you would during the normal years is the best practice, and we strongly encourage that you do that.

4:30

There are a lot of resources Teri has already mentioned to you in that process and it is not required as part of the SFSP to follow this specific process.

4:42

Um but you are required to do annual training of your staff prior to the start of their SFSP responsibilities.

4:51

And so I'm sure you will recall that, um certainly, room for some overlap between the two processes. You're going to be talking about a lot of the same topics anyway and so you're welcome to use the NSLP tracking method in order to keep track of your SFSP training as well.

5:13

And I think that's it for me, so I think we're going to Susan Alston next.

5:20

Speaker 4 – Good morning. So I'm going to kind of talk about the next item on the School Lunch Tray, um so this is a COVID-19 Emergency School Meal Delivery Fund, um this came across John Frassinelli, um desk or e-mails on the last week, so we wanted to make sure we share this out to you. You know, how much people are looking for extra funding to help with some of these things.

5:43

So what this is, it's a grant opportunity provided by GENYOUth.

5:47

Um GENYOUth is a nationally recognized wellness organization, um and they have partners along with themselves, that are working towards creating healthy school communities.

5:58

Um so, what this is, is a \$3000 per school, which is important.

6:02

So, it's not by district, per school grant that you can apply for this for different items that you might need to help your programs right now. Like um and they give some suggestions of equipment for cold storage and milk Polaris, equipment for transporting, sanitation equipment, stipends for staff, cafeteria equipment, for preparation of food, and some other thing. Um what you would want to do is you want to go use, using that link that's there, there is an online application that you would need to fill out.

6:34

One application needs to be filled out per school, so even if you want to apply for multiple schools, you would have to do one application for each, um up to \$3,000.

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6:45

So, if you have something that you know isn't going to be that much, you don't have to, you know, I would ask for the whole \$3,000. It's probably a good idea. Um it's a rolling review process. So, you don't have there's no closing date right now, if you apply, you know, they're going to be approving things as, as things go along. So if your application and then they said that, if you are approved, you will receive an e-mail from them, um and that you would receive the funding within four weeks.

7:14

Um so you might want to take a look at this.

7:16

And if you're looking for additional funding for your school, um I did open one of the applications and just by putting um putting in your zip code, um your school district will appear. Like, I did is East Hampton that's where I live. So, I put in 06424 up comes East Hampton School District, a list of all of the schools are there, so it pre fills a few of the different fields for the application. So that, it kind of helps you move it along. It seems like a very simple kind of application. You click, here, click there. You know what do you participate in, what areas are you looking to receive the funds and information, so.

7:54

And as a Food Service Director here at Service Manager, you're able to apply.

8:00

Um so definitely check out that opportunity, and that's it for that. So I'm going to pass it on to Shannon, who's going to talk about the webinar series for parents.

8:10

Speaker 1 - Thanks so much, Susan.

8:13

I'm going to scroll down here a little bit, so that you can see what we're talking about. So this is a really exciting initiative that came out of a conversation, a Town Hall, that the Department of Education, hosted on December eighth, there were more than 400 participants involved.

8:30

And what came out of that is really clear communication that families, parents, caregivers, they really want to be able to have a direct conversation with us and learn about those supports, that, that, that we're providing to schools to make sure that the student that their students are able to succeed in this very different environment.

8:49

So with this, this, this is an attachment to the School Lunch Tray and I'm gonna go ahead and scroll, down, so you can see, at the very end of the School Lunch Tray.

9:00

So this is what it looks like, And, as you can see, we were a little bit late since we've missed one of them already.

9:08

But the next one coming up is going to be around special education, and that's going to be a tremendous series.

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9:13

So it really is going to talk about, how you can help support kids who are in special education and really make sure that we know a lot of kids who are in special education or are back in school even more frequently. And so that's important to you as nutrition providers so that you might have special dietary accommodations. You need to make and I know Susan Fiore talks to you about that.

9:35

But certainly reach out to us and let us know educators and community members are welcome to join this, but it is really going to be geared toward families, caregivers, households.

9:47

So, as you can see, we're also, these will also occur throughout March, and so we're really geared toward academic success, talking about how you do self care. Social emotional learning for parents and caregivers, which is really important now, is this, is such a different environment to be managing work, managing, learning at home, in and out of school, and trying to keep everybody safe.

10:10

Um, then what's really neat is that we also have conversations that are going to be for Spanish speakers very specifically.

10:18

And so one of those is going to be a repeat of the social emotional learning webinar, and then another conversation around, virtual, um virtual conversation for parents and families of English learners.

10:32

So, please share this with the community at your schools, and make sure that they're aware of that resource, so that we can make sure that the households have question answered.

10:43

Like, I lost my PDF here, there we go, So that they can make sure that they have the supports that they need, as well.

10:51

So you'll have to forgive me. I'm a little new at this screen sharing feature of our webinar, usually my team is doing that, so bear with me as I scroll back and forth.

11:02

Really importantly as well is, we will be, lunch tray Table Talks on a weekly basis.

11:08

In March, we heard from some of you that this may not be the best time.

11:13

And so we're trying to accommodate that by letting you know, or by, by moving it around to see if maybe 2 to 3 o'clock on Thursdays, is going to work better for years. So we'll try it in March. We'll see how it goes, and if that doesn't work better, we will be sending out an evaluation like the March, so that you can tell us what's going to work best for you. We just needed to get this going so that we have that you have that access to us.

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11:39

Um so certainly look for that. We are will have one registration link again.

11:43

So once you register, you will be signed up for all of the March series.

11:48

And, um, so you don't have to worry about re registering or anything like that. And we also have this link that we encourage you to submit questions ahead of time. And so certainly do that, you can submit them at any time that link doesn't timeout.

12:01

So you're one of the people that gets up at three in the morning with those thoughts, you just have to share, certainly click on that link and let us know if you have any questions or what's on your mind.

12:11

As I've mentioned before, that really helps us be able to tailor these to make sure that they're useful to you.

12:16

So I am going to hand it back off to Monica, who is going to bring us home with the School Lunch Tray and also delve into the resource roundup.

12:28

And I'm going to throw a little bit of a quirk in here, since we didn't talk about this first, but I think at the end of the School Lunch Tray portion before we go into the resource roundup, we will pause and answer a few of those questions you're entering. And we'll certainly make sure that the hand raising feature is available for you as well.

12:47

So I am going to try very hard to stop sharing my screen, and hand it over to Monica.

13:01

Speaker 5 -Alright, good morning everyone. Can you see the screen now with the next topic, just making sure guys?

13:08

Speaker 1 - I can see it, but I'm not sure if that's still my screen so, we'll say yes and see what happens.

13:15

Speaker 5 – Okay, alright. Good morning everyone.

13:18

Um we are moving along now onto USDA Foods ordering. We're in the middle of our ordering period, so um we have a few updates. Um first is the fact that we have some additional processors to add to your BPID form.

13:34

Um you will see here that we have the International Food Solutions that are doing business as Asian Food Solutions or Comida Vida and for the material codes, the various BPIDs that you

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would utilize Kaine's food, as well as High Liner and please take note that the oil and the Pollock, the fish, um for the Kaine food and high liner or were not included on the worksheet.

13:58

These are changes that have occurred after the fact, so we have provided the price per pound so that you may do the calculations, to estimate the entitlement value you need to include as you place your orders. So, if you have any questions on that, you can certainly reach out to Allison or myself, we'll be happy to help you with that.

14:18

And then, the next piece is, just a reminder, we are always accepting the donating excess USDA Foods form.

14:29

Um as a reminder, we're asking folks to really take a ongoing and hard look at where you are using your USDA Foods that are at HPC, your direct delivery items.

14:40

Um at this point, you should be, hopefully, about 60% through your inventory, and if you're not, um please take a hard look at what you foresee your menu to eat for the remainder of the school year.

14:51

If you anticipate any changes in your feeding methods, which might affect that, um any of those types of things, and then then make a determination if you think there's gonna be items you can't use.

15:02

Um put that information on that request to donate USDA Foods form, and that can be submitted at any time, and then that's going to be available to us so that when we do the monthly ordering time, we have that information so we can offer up those items to other districts who might be able to use those.

15:19

So, uh again, remember, you can always put in that request to donate at any time once you've determined you have product that you won't be able to use, and I think that's it on those two short and sweet, and so, I guess, Shannon, it's gonna go back to questions first, is that what we said?

15:36

Speaker 1 – Yup, thanks so much Monica. So, and just so you know, you know, if we, we do book these for an hour. Sometimes we do take the full hour. Sometimes we even go to, okay, I'm not gonna, I'm not gonna pretend without, but sometimes we are able to keep these a little bit shorter. So just know join us at nine and see what happens.

15:54

So, um Michelle, do you mind enabling the hand raising feature if you haven't already please?

16:00

And Michelle is our gracious hostess who helps us through these webinars every week, so bear with us, we really do appreciate our colleagues help with that.

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16:09

So one of the questions, and I can go ahead and field this one is, a few weeks ago, there was talk of Federal state relief Funds for school Lunch Programs, where are we with this and care, and can we expect any details soon?

16:21

So, yes, we did apply for these. The due date for that was today, we applied and submitted our application last week to be able to be part of this program and provide some of those recovery funds to you. The process works that we, once we hear back on our application, then, um we state agencies have to submit what's called an implementation plan that is due on April 26th.

16:48

So we have now received additional guidance from USDA and what will need to be included.

16:52

We have not received our ability to do a template or anything like that, but we have this is also something that is as relevant for childcare centers, and so there's a lot of complexities to it, um but we did apply for it, so keep your fingers crossed.

17:06

Hopefully, we will be approved, and then we will go ahead and I communicate with you as much as we possibly can, as we go forward, or where we are in that process.

17:19

But it will be, it will be, it's, it's not an immediate relief just to, you know, so once we apply for that implementation grant, there's still that tie, or they implement once we submit our implementation plan.

17:29

There's still going to be some time for USDA approval, some time for us to be able to provide the, implement the actual implementation planning, get those funds out to you, but we absolutely are prioritizing that.

17:42

Alright. So we have a question around the GENYOUth grant. So I don't know if Susan Alston wants to respond to it? Speaker 4 – I do.

17:49

Speaker 1 Alright, fantastic and I also wanted to support your statement earlier around why not apply for the full \$3,000, it just makes sense.

17:58

Speaker 4 - So the question is, can this grant be used for transportation? So just looked at today and with the application, and the materials that came with it, I would say, yes.

18:11

I mean, one of the options that they give you is to is about transporting are serving food, um they also have that other option where you can add in anything, They give you an opportunity to justify or explain how the funds will be used to maintain that. They say continue and continue.

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18:31

I'm not even gonna try to say you can continue to serve meals of feeding your students through throughout this, you know the pandemic. So why not, right, I mean, it looks like they really want to give money out. The application is pretty simple, so if you think it's going to help, you can continuing to serve meals, um why not put an application and for all of your sites up to \$3000? You just, you just never know, so I'd say go for it.

18:56

Speaker 1 - I fully support that. Alright. Thank you, Susan.

19:02

Our next questions are really around USDA Foods which will provide us a nice segue back into our resource roundup.

19:09

Monica, there's a question around donated or donated cases. So here is the question: I have done it in many cases, but they are still currently available in my balance HPC.

19:21

Are you able to talk about that at all, or do we need to take that back in?

19:27

Speaker 5 - Nope, sure can, and I think, actually, I glanced quickly at the next one would you may also read that one, I think they're similar? So I can probably answer absolutely same time.

19:34

Speaker 1 - So the next question is, is it safe to assume the excess USDA items that I have offered up will indeed be taken and not left on my inventory at the end of the school year? These are really great questions.

19:47

Speaker 5 - Okay, yeah, they are, thank you. Um so, do know that there is a process.

19:52

Once you've submitted your donation form, it takes a while behind the scenes to actually remove that inventory from your inventory. Um it is, unfortunately, a bit of a manual process. Transfer documents have to be created to make these moves, and it may not happen immediately after you submit the form. So, please be patient.

20:12

I think um Allison and Sybil are working on this primarily, and I think it takes at least a few weeks for that transfer to actually occur. I know right now, they're busy getting out any of the order requests finished first.

20:24

So then I think, you know, they will get back two, then making the transfers for the donated items. And certainly our intention is if you donated those, we're removing them from your inventory. So by the end of the year, yes, you certainly, we are expecting that they should not be in your inventory.

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20:41

And if there's anything different to that as we approach the end of the year, we'll be working with you guys because we know this is a unique situation where um folks are finding their menus are completely different then when they anticipated last year when they were placed in these orders.

20:57

Speaker 1 - Thanks, Monica, that's really helpful that we briefly had a hand raised, but it looks like that was around the same question.

21:04

So, there's questions around DOD and one of the, and certainly, let us know if we need to pause and take it later, but here is the question.

21:14

I will likely need more DOD funds before the end of the year, can I request more money and when and how should I ask? Those are the Department of Defense, Fresh Fruit and Vegetables?

21:25

Speaker 5 - Yes, that's another easy one, yes you may request, we do have additional funds.

21:30

We're also looking at folks remaining entitlement and certainly with some of the cancelations that have occurred, you are seeing extra entitlements still remaining in your um account. And we can move that over to DOD for you, and all that takes is an e-mail to either Allison or myself and tell us how much you anticipate you will need, and then we will work with you to see if we can meet that request.

21:53

Speaker 1 - That's great. Thanks so much Monica. So that was the end of our questions for right now and I'm not seeing any hands raised so we can go ahead and move into the resource roundup.

22:02

And just briefly, before we do that, I just want to give a huge shout out to our USDA Foods team with Monica and Allison.

22:09

This year has just been so intense last year as well, and they have really been just rock stars and being able to make sure that you have the food that you need and making sure that food's not going to waste or are expiring before.

22:25

It's being able to be bad to students. So really, thank you so much to my team for, for everything you're doing to make sure that that schools do have food and it is a tough time to be doing that.

22:36

So with that, I will, I will go off camera and let you take over Monica for our resource roundup.

22:47

Speaker 5 - Alrighty.

22:49

Just double checking, I think everyone can see, it's a very brief resource roundup lead-in.

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22:55

Um so, we thought it was an opportune time to jump in and just review some of the resources that are available. We made links available when we made the initial announcements about ordering, but we want to just show you where these are in the food distribution web pages.

23:09

So that you can easily access these anytime you want.

23:12

And um so I'm just gonna go ahead and click right, and this is linking us to the food distribution web page.

23:18

I hope this is somewhat familiar to folks, um and certainly, if you're not as familiar with this, are usual method of finding pretty much anything. For us, is going to program guidance. You can go that route, and then if you click on the alphabet listing up top under F for Food Distribution program, you'll see there's a link right there that'll bring you to this.

23:40

So try to keep that as easy as we can, and I'm going to scroll down. There's a whole bunch of things here, but I want to focus quickly first on our section that's talking about WBSCM, which is Web Based Supply Chain Management. Um I'll call it Web Supply.

23:55

There's a few other abbreviations that are a little less flattering. So we'll stick with Web Supply.

24:04

Um and the two worksheets that you need to be estimating your orders for next year are right here.

24:09

So first is the worksheet for calculating your direct delivery.

24:13

And then the other is your worksheet for calculating your processed USDA Foods. I'm gonna go ahead and click right into the direct delivery worksheet.

24:26

And here, you will see, um this is the current worksheet for this year.

24:31

A reminder that the due date is March 12th for your orders, but this is for you to then be able to navigate and, um, estimate what you think you want to order. So, I know Web Supply can be a bit of an intimidating order system. You want to kind of have all your ducks in a row before you are ready to order, and you are just placing your final numbers.

24:53

So this gives you that opportunity, you can set an amount of speed.

25:00

Here we go.

25:01

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You could set an amount here for how much you want to put towards your direct delivery items, and then you will see that you have a remaining balance.

25:10

And then as you click into various fields and put the number of cases you think you want to order, it will calculate what you're spending and then what your remaining balance is.

25:20

So this is a tool that goes through all your different direct delivery items, your um different categories here, it coincides with those delivery periods, and you can put in the number of cases you think you want of these items.

25:34

And then, play around, as I like to say, and figure out your, your total amounts, your total numbers of cases, to meet your final dollar goal. So, I encourage you to use this to help you get as close as you can to using all the entitlement you have, set aside for your direct delivery items.

25:56

And then, save that, the processing worksheet very similar.

26:05

If you go through this one. Again, also, a little simpler because we have limited the number of delivery periods because we'll work on that on our side because we need to some time to move pounds around to make the truckloads.

26:21

So we just need your total number of pounds and again, you can put in numbers.

26:29

And it will do the math for you. So here, I'm doing it a little backwards. I'm saying, Well, I know I want a thousand pounds of this cheese for a certain product.

26:38

So I can see that's going to use \$1740 of my entitlement, and I can kind of just work at that way as well.

26:47

Figure out, you know, my basic needs, what that's going to cost me an entitlement, and then know what. That number is that way.

26:54

So, again, another tool for you to utilize and have all your orders ready and planned, so that when you're ready to go into web supply, your final number, bits are set and you can just enter those easily. If you have any questions on using these worksheets or working on them, I know at one point, one of our cells didn't work, so I appreciate someone reached out to us and we got that corrected.

27:17

Please feel free to let us know if you need anything there.

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27:21

Next, under this section, I also want to point out for everyone, actually, that this is going to take a minute to load. I think it's a good size documents.

27:33

Our training guide was updated just last month.

27:37

And for those who are familiar with it, it's a rather lengthy document, um, and it's, that's because it's a lot of screenshots of actual pages of Web Supply, here we go.

27:47

So this may look familiar, but it was updated last month.

27:53

And I want to just go through to kind of go through the table of contents again. The key ones, especially right now, if, you know, if you want to check your entitlement, you can start at page 34, um creating in order for direct delivery starts on page 39.

28:09

Creating an order for delivery to a processor is on page 57, and that famous Requisitioned Status report that we frequently tell folks to run. How to do that, is right there on page 87.

28:22

And aye.

28:27

Encourage you to go take a look, even if you are a seasoned veterans, so to speak, and you are pretty familiar. This is a great refresher. It's been updated a little bit, so it may be a little different than from years past.

28:40

And certainly, for the new directors, whom this may be your first or second time ordering, and it may seem a little intimidating, I'm going to scroll right down to actually um page 34 for the start of, no further, excuse me, for creating a direct delivery order. As you go through sheer, we reference again the worksheets to make sure those are ready.

29:04

And then you can go ahead and you can see that we show you, right, the way it looks in Web Supply.

29:11

You have your various areas.

29:14

You need to click with the directions, it shows you what the next screen looks like, and it takes you right through how to place that order and the various areas you need to look. So, you could have this. If you have two screens, you could have this up on one screen, and you actually in web supply on the other, and just follow right along page by page. So, I encourage you to refresh yourselves for our veterans, and, certainly, for our newer directors, utilize this tool to help guide you as you place your orders.

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29:47

Okay, um the other thing I want to show you quickly, of course, there is the link right to web supply here. I'm not going to click into that now, but that is access right there.

29:59

Um two other forms that are here, which are a little further up under processing, um we've gotten frequent e-mails or calls about double checking what they're, what a schools web supply number is and so we do have that right here, under processing the recipient agency numbers So for all of you.

30:22

Um, if you forget, if you're new, and you're like, I'm not sure which number She means right here by district.

30:28

Are the web supply numbers that you need, and that's how you're account is set up in web supply for your district.

30:35

So that's a quick reference there.

30:38

And then also, as a reminder, we do have the BPID form.

30:46

Also, right here, this is for 21-22, so this is for what we're ordering for next year.

30:51

And again, we have the processor's here, and remember, in today's School Lunch Tray, I just pointed out that we've got three additional processors added with their BPID ID Numbers, and the Material Coach they're using, so that you can add those to your potential orders.

31:15

Alright, let's see.

31:18

Then, I'm going to go on to the other tab, which is our Related Resources. Two quick things here, um we have a whole bunch of things here.

31:26

But to the folks may not realize here is we have the foods available list. We send that to you at the start of the year to ask for input on any potential new items we might want to see on the catalog, but just for your reference, so, you know, this is always linked here.

31:41

It was issued in December 2020, school year 20-22, which is our upcoming school year of 21-22.

31:51

And, so, you can see everything is here and, um, gives you a quick check on, um, you know, all the different items that are available.

32:01

So, you can see, there is a large amount of items that are available and again, based on your input and based on, you know, where we think we can get truckloads or close to truckloads that we can

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share with a neighboring state, we pick those items so that we can make sure those orders go through.

32:18

So, this is always here for you, and then the other item that people frequently asked about are the fact sheets for the different USDA direct delivery food items.

32:28

So this links you right to USDA, and then you can go through some through some of the different whoops here, click into the meat meat alternate. We can look at the, all the different item set.

32:44

Fall in that category, you have their ID number, the material code number, but if you'll scroll through, say, and look at, I was gonna look at the big Patty.

32:54

So, these are those fact sheets that are very helpful for you to see what the product is, the specifications, it tells you the category, or it falls under, it gives you nutrition facts, um very importantly, for your administrative reviews and your menu planning is that, we'll tell you the CN crediting so that you have that. So the one Egg Patty yields, the one ounce equivalent meat meat alternative or meat alternate, excuse me, and, you know, this is acceptable documentation for crediting for when you are having your administrative review.

33:29

An important thing I want to point out to are the two boxes over here on the right, the allergen information. It tells you that it contains the eggs and may contain milk, but you do have to refer to your specific product when it comes in.

33:41

Because this is a product that goes out to bid and may have a different vendor at different times.

33:47

That specific allergen information cannot be determined until you actually have the specific product in house and you see who the vendor is and what their information is. So, you'll always have to remember that this this will not provide you the specific allergen information or the ingredient listing because of that reason.

34:07

Um and then also do remember that the nutrient values here are a representation from all the different food vendor labels.

34:13

Because they, again, could have different vendors at different times, but useful information right here for you.

34:23

Okay, I'm going to click out of this, and go back one more moment to the doc. You mentioned forms.

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34:35

I think that covers most of the forms that I thought might be of benefit to review as you're placing your orders coming up.

34:41

Again, they're all here, they were linked in the initial introductory, notice that went out in the School Lunch Tray. I think it was two weeks ago, but um they're always available here, so I just wanted to make sure you saw that there.

34:53

And then the other thing we had mentioned was a reminder of um the donation form, but here is the section on our page fits the order and donation forms for the excess direct delivery items at each HPC.

35:05

I'm going to click into that donate form, because we had talked about that this week, so again, this is always available for you to utilize to um send in the information that you may have product that you're going to not be able to use. That finished using this year so that we can see if there's another district you can use that.

35:23

Do you know that this is a special platform that was set up just for this ordering process um and every item is listed here.

35:31

So you can see it's everything that we had as potential items this year to order.

35:36

So you have that available, and you can then, therefore, let us know if there's anything that is going to be offered up for donation.

35:47

The other form is the donate form. Oh, excuse me, pardon me, the other form is the order form. I apologize. So here, and it's in green. So we hopefully can separate that out and make them look a little different. It is the full order form again. So please note, we had to set this up on this platform. It's not something we can change out every month to, to change to what is actually available.

36:11

We had to set up the whole template this way, so please remember every second Wednesday of the month, we will list the items that are available that month, um based on the donations we have been receiving.

36:22

So we have received a few forums where someone has filled out a couple of cases of everything on the list, and that's not what is available that month.

36:31

So you need to look at that second Wednesday of the month, in the School Lunch Tray the announcement of the available items, and then from those, select, if you can um take any of those items.

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36:43

And, so, again, this is only accepted in that one week window, after the announcement of what items are available, um these items are then set out that this form is available for you to fill out and request those items, and we do require a 12 case minimum, and um that is of the total order, So it is not 12 cases of each item, it is just a total of 12.

37:07

So that we have that um requirement there.

37:12

And I think that's about all I had to show on that.

37:19

So yes, I am willing and able to take questions or if there's any other questions about anything else, Oh, I do have one other more important, one more important thing too.

37:29

Pardon me. I just remembered for folks who are working with Food Service Management Companies, you Food Service Management Company Directors, please remember that before you're donating items, you want to have a discussion with your business officials and let them know what your plan is. Make sure you have them weigh in on the process. This is the SFA's food, um you are certainly managing it and handling it on their behalf as the management company. However, you want to make sure that you're very clear up front end before you've made donations, that, you know, the reason why you need to donate these items, and the fact that that's, you know, something that you're looking to do to reduce inventory. And then, and equally, make sure you take credit for when you're able to get additional items.

38:10

So if you are able to order and receive additional items, get extra DOD funds throughout the year. Make sure you're communicating that as well with your business official, or your SFA to show them that, you know, the hard work you're putting into, trying to manage this inventory along with all of us during these crazy time. So, but make sure you're communicating that very clearly before you donate.

38:31

These are the SFA products, and you want to make sure that they're aware and onboard, and you wouldn't want that, to come back where you donated items, and then a big question, why, afterwards.

38:42

So please remember that we do have Andy on the line today, as well, available for questions, if there's any specific questions to that also.

38:51

Alright, Shannon, I think that covers it.

38:54

Speaker 1 = Great, thank you, Monica, that there is a really great reminder for Food Service Management companies, too, especially because you don't want to be in the position of us asking the SFA and then not having any answers, so, really great advice.

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39:07

So we do have a couple of questions that have come in.

39:11

So one of the, a couple of them have a messaged you privately to let you know that we will follow up with you, since they are pretty specific to your district.

39:21

So one of the questions we have is: can the price fields be opened, so that we can get more accurate price values on the spreadsheets?

39:32

Speaker 5 - Okay, I'm sorry, I only heard part of that, can you repeat that?

39:37

Speaker 1 - I can repeat that. Can the price field be open so you can get more accurate price values on the spreadsheet.

39:46

So I think folks are looking to, on the, on the worksheets that we have, is it possible to open up those the price values so that they can tweak them as needed?

40:00

Speaker 5 – Um, right, yes, and that's a good point. You know, the pricing on the spreadsheets are literally the price that day when we created them and updated them and um the prices can change every day based on more recent sales and those are estimates.

40:14

Right now, we do send out those worksheets completely locked, because we want to be sure that folks don't accidentally change a formula changes cell, and, therefore, affect the accuracy of that worksheet to preparing their orders.

40:28

Um so, I would say, have that person reach out to us directly so we can have a conversation with them about that if that's something that we can do. Speaker 1 – Okay, that's great, that's very helpful. I'm going to pause on the written questions, let folks get some more of those in writing and I'm going to take the hand that's raised from Maura, who it's great to see it, great to see your name out there Maura if you want to go ahead and unmute yourself and ask your question, we'd love to hear from you. Do we need to unmute, we might?

41:03

Speaker 6 - I don't see any hands raised. Speaker 1 – Okay, maybe that's just a quirk on my end.

41:09

Speaker 6 – Um was it somebody specific that you want me to look for or?

41:13

Speaker 1 – Um it looks like Maura O'Malley has her hand raised on my end.

41:18

So it looks like it might be a former hand raised.

41:21

Speaker 6 - Oh, yeah, there we go now.

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41:27

Speaker 1 – Thanks Michelle.

41:30

Speaker 6 – Okay Maura go ahead and unmute yourself.

41:33

Speaker 1 - Wow, wow.

41:39

Speaker 6 - Not sure, sorry, you can hear my dog barking too. Yeah, I don't know what question she asked. It doesn't look like she has audio, or I'm not sure what's going on. Maybe we can try to come back to her.

41:51

Speaker 1 - Okay, and Maura in the meantime, if, until we work on that, too certainly go ahead and submit questions in the question box while we figure out our technical challenges. Um alright. So the next question is, I understand the instructions are updated, but has the process changed at all?

42:10

Speaker 6 – Um no, the question I know, overall, the process has not changed, just hopefully clarified and cleaned up a few things.

42:16

Hoping to simplify it a bit so, no major changes to the process.

42:22

Speaker 1 - Great. That's helpful.

42:24

Is it possible to review how we can enter our, whoops.

42:28

I scrolled too far. Is it possible to review how we can enter our commodity product amount that we would like to divert in web supply?

42:40

Speaker 6 - So, we're asking if we want to actually see how to enter in web supply.

42:45

Speaker 1 - That's what I'm reading.

42:47

Jose, if you are, if you're willing to pay, join us via audio.

42:53

It may or may be helpful in for him to ask your question, certainly all you need to do is raise your hand, and we can try our very best to unmute you.

43:04

Ok, so it looks like it looks like Jose is?

43:07

Michelle, do you can you unmute him, please?

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43:15

Speaker 6 - I did. He asked to then, okay, there he goes.

43:17

Speaker 7 – Okay, yes, so there's something we do once a year, so I just wanted to see those a refresher of how we enter the diverse products that we want in the end out specific website because it could get a little tricky of how to divert you know? We want 3000 pounds of chicken to go, it. Speaker 5 - Maybe, you and I can have a side conversation, and I can show you.

43:42

Speaker 7- Thank you.

43:46

Speaker 5 - Okay, yeah, so I can, you know, why don't you and I have a conversation after this.

43:51

You know, And I'll be happy to show you that specifically because that may be a little in depth to open up, all the way into web supply, and I have to get into a test account to show that and all that.

44:01

So I'll be happy to show you that, if you want to just reach out to me via e-mail, we cannot share a screen, and I can show you all that.

44:09

Speaker 7 - Okay, thank you.

44:11

Speaker 1 - Thanks so much. Thank you, Jose, for joining us, and ask that verbally. Alright. So our next question is, there a way to find out what items may have been donated? I do not see a way to save the list.

44:29

The updated list, the list comes out monthly of the donated items that are available. They are in the School Lunch Tray, so under our program guidance now under .S for School Lunch Tray Table Talk you can look back at any of our prior School Lunch Trays and there is a an outline of the topics covered, so, it's the second Wednesday of the month that we've put out those lists, thank you.

44:57

Speaker 1 - Then, the, what? There's a clarification, so, they're looking for what their district has donated in the past, so far.

45:08

Oh, what their district has donated.

45:10

Speaker 5 - Um, yeah, that, you know, what, send that as an e-mail question directly to Allison, if you wouldn't mind, because I'm not sure what the system can do for that.

45:19

But, I'm sure we can look, do it for you.

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45:23

Thanks so much.

45:24

Speaker 1 - So, this is a hot topic question, and it is, this is, I believe, what we're trying to get in person, is the is the situation with HPC delivery.

45:36

Um, so, I can help with that. Yes, we are aware that there have been some very unprecedented, delivery challenges in that extremely seriously.

45:48

Certainly, we are in conversation with HPC.

45:50

There has been a lot of disruptions with driver shortages and such, but we do. We do know that that is creating some major challenges.

45:59

So we aren't very close conversation with HPC and hopefully we'll be able to resolve some of these issues sooner than later. So, thank you for your patience while we figure this out. But we are absolutely aware, and we're absolutely working with them.

46:14

I think we may have lost Monica, she looked like she may have froze for a moment.

46:20

Alright. So I'm not seeing any other questions in the question box, and no other hands raised, so we'll just give it a few minutes in case you have other questions.

46:28

And even though you don't see our team, we are on. So, if you have questions that are outside of food distribution that you want to ask, certainly ask those, and we, our team members, can join to answer those as needed.

46:45

We do have one question that needs a little clarification, and I'm not sure if this person is, is on the line, but there was a question around, and I believe this is in regard to the worksheets that you were reviewing, Monica.

46:56

But the question was, what does the yellow highlighted product mean? I'm not sure that whoa, that if that is, will, mention that, that reflects.

47:10

Speaker 5 - I think he means that on the, I mean, that on the direct delivery worksheet, um there are some highlighted items, and those are items that are both direct delivery and potentially can be further processed.

47:21

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Um and if you're looking at certain products, you would know if those items would um be needed and they could also be sent to a processor.

47:29

Speaker 1 - Thank you.

47:30

I personally love those worksheets, they're great. A huge shout out to our partner over at SERC, Sybil. Who many of, you know her name, definitely helped us be able to build those for you, to make it a much easier process.

47:45

That's something that that not a lot of state agencies are able to make available.

47:49

So, it's a really great tool. I'm not seeing any other questions come in. So, I will, and move into wrapping this up, and giving you a little bit of time back in your day.

48:06

So, thank you so much, everybody, for joining us, and for being so interactive today, and asking us your questions, and raise your hands and talking with us. So we look forward to seeing you next week at a new time, same day.

48:19

So please join us for our March series, from 2 to 3, and we will look forward to you joining us, and in the meantime, remember that question link doesn't expire.

48:29

Submit those questions ahead of time, and give us a chance to be able to look at, know what those questions are, and it may inform us for the School Lunch Tray.

48:37

In fact, one of the questions last week around CEUs was, what prompted us to highlight this schools School Lunch Trays table, talk with the um conversation around, how do you track those professional standards, and how you can make that really work for you? So thanks again. We really appreciate all you're doing out there. You are truly our heroes. So certainly, let us know how we can support you. And thanks again to my team and Michelle from our performance office for making this happen, and we look forward to working with all of you in helping navigate through this. And, hey, I hear spring is right around the corner. So, it might be actual real summer meals season sometime soon. So, we, now, that's all you're around, definitely for now.

49:22

Thanks so much, stay in touch.

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