2020 Food Service Update

Dec. 7th – Operations Meeting

Concessions

- Not providing at this moment, due to COVID-19.

Wellness Committee

- Prior to the start of the school year, the wellness committee, with the help from Amanda Peterson, developed a wellness website through Google Sites (*Link provided below*).
    o Link: https://sites.google.com/rwps.org/wellnessresources-rwps/how-to-use-this-site?authuser=0
- Committee is currently working to finish calming rooms for staff across the district. At many sites these rooms are additionally used for breastfeeding mothers.
- Grant funds have allowed the wellness committee to purchase items for these calming rooms and paid for the time needed in developing the wellness website for staff.

Food Service Program

- Reduced the curbside pick-up locations to just the school sites, starting on Dec. 2nd.
- Food Service is experiencing staffing issues due to COVID-19.
    o It has become imperative to spread out the operations within the building (i.e. spilling into the cafeteria) to prevent from losing all staff within a school kitchen and potentially jeopardizing the program to the community.
- Food Service has been serving free meals to all children 18 and under, through the Summer Food Service Program, since March 16th, 2020. To date, the department has served 405,447 meals; includes both breakfast and lunch.
- Continue to support the local Food Shelf in providing frozen vegetables and protein. Made possible through donations to foodservice in the spring of 2020.
- COVID-19 related expenses $85,736.73 (new trays, packaging, and equipment needed due to COVID-19 changes to allow delivery to the classroom). Continue to track as additional expenses mount.
- Since the start of school Food Service has been providing bottled water free to all students; current expense $1,413.72. Will continue to provide depending on future learning models.
- Food Service continues to make meals for staff while in the building at the High School; 7-12 daily adult meal sales.
- Placed a priority in purchasing local to support our local farmers (i.e. Ferndale Market, Nesbitt Orchard & Nursey, The Good Acre, Plainview Creamery, and Fifth Seasons Coop.)
- Worked with District Admin. Team to find key staff willing to assist with the compensatory aid issue. Developed script/verbiage and identified 21 staff, who are placing calls home to all enrolled families, encouraging the completion of the meal benefits application. Hope to see an increase in the Dec. 15th MARSS submission.

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SNAPSHOT OF THE FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Number of meals distributed since starting Distant Learning on Nov. 16th, 2020:

- Nov. 18th = 7,643 meals (includes both breakfast/lunch)
- Nov. 25th = 8,218 meals (includes both breakfast/lunch)
    - Nov. 25th meal included a frozen turkey dinner. Turkey came locally from Ferndale Market in Cannon Falls.
- Food Service will continue to provide meals over winter break, but will have a pre-order option and curbside pick-up at the High School only. More information will be sent out to families soon.

Average monthly meal counts prior to COVID-19 (2019/20 SY Data) **(B=Breakfast & L=Lunch)**

- Sept. = 12,106 (B) & 31,204 (L) = 43,310
- Oct. = 15,043 (B) & 34,606 (L) = 49,649
- Nov. = 12,415 (B) & 28,493 (L) = 40, 908

Reimbursement Rates under the National School Lunch/Breakfast Program (2019/20 SY)

Breakfast	**Lunch**	**Total**
Paid = $0.86	Paid = $0.445	Paid = $1.305
Reduced = $2.20	Reduced = $3.535	Reduced =$5.735
Free = $2.20	Free = $3.535	Free = $5.735
K = $1.30	K = $0.00	K= $1.30

Average monthly meal counts during COVID-19 (Current 2020/21 SY Data)

- Sept. = 14,049 (B) & 14,711 (L) = 28,760
- Oct. = 19,311 (B) & 19,376 (L) = 38,687
- Nov. = 19,506 (B) & 18,794 (L) = 38,300

Reimbursement Rates under the Summer Food Service Program

Breakfast	**Lunch**	**Total**	
$2.375	$4.1525	$6.5275	*Diff. of $0.7925*