Navigating Supply Chain Disruptions: Finding Innovative Solutions During Challenges Times

2022 RURAL CHILD HUNGER SUMMIT



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Linda Martin Food Service Director Uinta County School District #1

# **Demographics**

Evanston, Wyoming: Population 12,000

District: 2,700 Students

9 Schools

Averaging 1,800 lunches and 900 breakfasts



truck collaboration experimenting shortage options taste attitude sharing price discontinued creativity outage recipes labor friend



Struggles	Controllable	Options
Discontinued	Taste	Sharing
Trucks	Attitude	Experimenting
Shortages	Options	Collaboration
Outages	Creativity	Friends
Price		





Local storage unit for paper goods

Custodians need gloves too



Collaborate with other districts

In district

options

#### 2022 Rural Child Hunger Summit



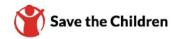












#### 2022 Rural Child Hunger Summit

















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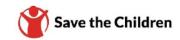












https://healthyschoolrecipes.com/

https://www.tysonfoodservice.com/

https://www.landolakesfoodservice.com/

https://snp.gadoe.org/SCE/Pages/K-12-Recipes.aspx

https://simplotfoods.com/

https://www.mccainusafoodservice.com/k12-recipe-hub/

https://www.bongards.com/

https://www.butterballfoodservice.com/recipes/

https://www.jtmfoodgroup.com/

https://www.jennieofoodservice.com/k12/recipes.cfm

#### **GOOGLE SEARCH K12 RECIPES**





Reginald A. Ross Operations & Management Consultant North Carolina Department of Public Instruction



# **School Nutrition Role:**

- Zone 3 Operations and Management Consultant North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- As a consultant for the State Agency, I consult with:
  - 15 Traditional School Food Authorities (SFAs)
    - School sites in those SFAs range from 7 to 178
  - 25 Charter School Food Authorities
  - 7 Residential Child Care Institute (RCCIs)



# **School Nutrition Role:**

- I conduct Technical Assistance Reviews and Comprehensive Technical Assistance Reviews in preparation for Administrative Reviews.
- I work on various Administrative Review (AR) Teams throughout the school year at geographical locations in all parts of the state of North Carolina



# **State of School Nutrition During Pandemic:**

- School Nutrition Professionals recognized as "Essential Heroes"
- Need to Serve Their Community
  - Tufts University Survey
- School Nutrition Professionals have endured incredible hardships to feed students:

• No PPE

Loss of Valued School Nutrition Professionals



# **State of School Nutrition During Pandemic:**

- School Nutrition Professionals have endured incredible hardships to feed students:
  - Curbside feeding
  - Use of activity and yellow buses to transport meals
  - Grab n Go meals
  - Meals served in classrooms and gymnasiums
  - Boxed meals for up to a week



# **Challenges Now Being Experienced:**

- Supply chain shortages
- Major staffing upheaveal
- Increased labor costs
- Global food prices
- Distributor concerns refusal to rollover existing contracts
- Menu planning



# **Challenges Now Being Experienced:**

- Unfunded mandates for salary increases
- Not able to obtain USDA Foods
- In the state of North Carolina, October 2020 October 2021:
  - Breakfast meal counts are down 7%
  - Lunch meal counts are down 10%



# **Solutions for a Brighter Future:**

- Support from district superintendents, principals, and administrators is critical to the success of your programs.
- Consider advance ordering of food and supplies to allow suppliers time to secure items or substitutions.
- Discuss options with distributors when receiving "Out of Stock" Reports
- Building relationships with distributors, manufacturers, and all vendors is most important during these challenging times.



# **Solutions for a Brighter Future:**

- Building relationships with distributors, manufacturers, and all vendors is most important during these challenging times.
- Use emergency and micropurchasing options when needed.
- Purchase local fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Consider increasing warehouse capacity by searching and securing unused facilities in the district.



# **Solutions for a Brighter Future:**

- If possible, rotate staff to allow staff members a "day off".
- Be flexible with distributors in receiving orders (late afternoons and weekends may be better options).
- Consider options for successful managers to manage multiple sites.
- Provide incentives for new and fresh ideas to improve your operations.





Gay Anderson, SNS Child Nutrition Director Sioux Falls School District

# **10 Rural School Districts**

# DAKOTA TEN

Piloting group of 10 rural school districts in South Dakota

Funded by No Kid Hungry

Largest District: 675 students

Smallest District: 124 students

Free/Reduced rates range from 16% - 45%

Mainly farming communities





Let's look at Oldham Ramona

Consolidated schools – Student population: 194

Student Demographics – 97% White, 1% Hispanic, 1% Two or more races 29% students from low income families

NOTE: Nearest grocery store 26 miles





# **Supply Chain Solutions**

- Reduce number of deliveries when feasible –
  Work with your distributors to see if this impacts fees charged.
- Communicate needs and forecasts as early as possible.
- Plan your alternatives "what if" situations. When something doesn't show up, you already know what will happen.
- Communicate, communicate and communicate to your parents, administrations and all others.



### **Supply Chain Solutions**

- Rural school districts combine buying power—
  Work together for more like products to assist distribution.
- Open minded when working together is critical.
- Stay within the Bid Projections where possible.
- Share your WINS No styro-lunch trays, cost saving factor with paper food trays. Compute the savings.



# **Supply Chain Solutions**

- Focus on the future What about the Avian Flu impact? How do I plan for supply and demand concerns in the future?
- Listen to what is happening around the country, world.
  Copy paper issues
  Equipment demands and lead times
- This is a new era gone are the ways we always did this, look at how we will be better.
- WE CAN DO THIS!





### LET'S TALK THROUGH THIS FURTHER