

March 6, 2019

MAILED

Newton County Schools
Mr. J. O. Amis, Superintendent
15305 Hwy 15
Decatur, MS 39327-0000

on 3 / 8 / 19 by sw

Dear Mr. Amis:

The Office of Child Nutrition (OCN) completed an Administrative Review (AR) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) during the week of February 18, 2019. The regulations governing the AR [7 CFR 210.18] reference two Critical Areas of Performance: Performance Standard 1 and Performance Standard 2, as well as several General Areas of Review. Over the course of the AR, **six (6) findings were identified** and are described below:

Resource Management

- According to 7 CFR 210.14(b), the SFA should limit net cash resources to an amount that does not exceed 3 months' average operating expenses. The SFA had an excess balance that exceeded the district's three months operation balance. In order to document corrective action, the district must develop a plan to reduce the excess balance and improve the meal service operations.

Meal Access & Reimbursement

- According to FNS 791-1 Rev. 1, the SFA is prohibited against denying meals and milk to children as a disciplinary action. Students were given peanut butter & jelly sandwiches as a meal for school lunch in the In-School Suspension class. In order to document corrective action, the district must submit documentation that the practice no longer exists.

General Program Compliance

- According to 7 CFR 2.10.11, all competitive food sold to students during the school day must be Smart Snack Compliant. The reviewer noted that the vending machine was not in compliance with the regulatory requirements of products sold to students; specifically, the 20 oz. Powerade beverage at the high school exceeds the calorie requirement. In order to document corrective action, the school must submit documentation that the product is Smart Snack compliant or that it has been removed from the vending machine.

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- The SFA's written Food Safety Plan (FSP) is not implemented in accordance with 7 CFR 210.13 (c). Proper HACCP principles, specifically temperature logs, were not maintained. The following corrective action must be taken by the SFA: staff should be trained on the proper procedure for taking and maintaining temperature logs. The SFA should submit documentation of maintained temperature logs as well as a staff training agenda and sign in sheets.
- The SFA's written FSP is not implemented in accordance with 7 CFR 210.13 (c). The reviewer noted that staff was not wearing hair restraints in accordance with HACCP principles. The following corrective action must be taken by the SFA: staff should be trained on the use of hair restraints. The SFA should submit documentation of a staff training agenda and sign in sheets.

A corrective action response to the findings of this review is due by **April 8, 2019**. The corrective action response must be entered into the Mississippi Application and Reimbursement System (MARS) by the Child Nutrition Director.

In addition to conducting the AR, the SA's goal is to provide Technical Assistance (TA) to the SFA to improve program operations. Over the course of the AR, TA was provided to the SFA in several areas. These comments are in the State Agency software program, MARS, specifically in the comments section of the On-Site Assessment.

The SA would like to commend the SFA for being very organized and detailed. All the data requested for the AR was organized. The site visited, Newton County Schools, was very organized and clean. The staff worked very well together as a team also provided excellent customer service.

If you have questions, please email me at Charper@mdek12.org or call Mary Burks or me at (601) 576-4955.

Sincerely,



Chequetta Harper, Policy Analyst
Office of Child Nutrition, School Support Division

cc: File NSLP (AR) 2019

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 **FILE**

Office of Child Nutrition
Scott Clements
Director

April 5, 2019

Newton County School District
J. O. Amis, Superintendent
15305 Hwy 15
Decatur, MS 3932

MAILED

on 4 / 8 / 19 by sw

Dear Mr. Amis:

Your response to the findings of our Administrative Review of your 2018-2019 National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) has been received and accepted in the Mississippi Application and Reimbursement System (MARS). We are closing the file on this review.

If you have any questions concerning this review or need assistance, please call Mary Burks or me at (601) 576-4955. Thank you for your continued support of the Child Nutrition Programs.

Sincerely,



Chequetta Harper, Policy Analyst
Office of Child Nutrition, School Support Division

cc: File NSLP (AR) 2019

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