

May 3, 2022

Lee County School District
Mr. Coke Magee, Superintendent
PO Box 1100
Verona, MS 38879-1100

Dear Mr. Magee:

The State Agency (SA) completed an Administrative Review (AR) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), After School Care Program (ASCP), and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during the week of March 22, 2022. An exit conference was conducted on April 28, 2022. The regulations governing the Administrative Review (7 CFR 210.18) require the SA to review two Critical Areas: Performance Standard 1 (Meal Access and Reimbursement) and Performance Standard 2 (Meal Pattern and Nutritional Quality). The Review additionally covers several General Areas of Review. Over the course of the SA Review, **two (2) total findings were identified**. The SA is pleased to report that **none of the findings have resulted in fiscal action**. The findings which were identified are described below.

General Program Compliance (General Areas of Review)

- In accordance with SP 24-2017, food marketing, including depictions of food products on vending machines and coolers and other equipment, cannot promote non-compliant products. While on site at Guntown Middle, the Reviewer noted that that the ice cream cooler in the cafeteria advertised non-compliant ice cream products. In order to demonstrate corrective Action, the SFA must either remove or obscure the advertisement.
- In accordance with 7 CFR 210.11 (c), competitive food items sold to students during the school day must meet general nutrition requirements (must be “Smart Snack Compliant”). While on site at Plantersville Jr. High, the reviewer noted that the cookies sold to students in the cafeteria are not compliant. In order to implement corrective action, the SA suggests that the SFA submit a plan to ensure the cookies are no longer sold, or find a smart snack compliant alternative.

The School Food Authority (SFA) **must provide a corrective action response to all findings** of the Review by **June 3, 2022**. This response must be entered into the Mississippi Application and Reimbursement System (MARS) by an authorized signatory for the Child Nutrition Programs. If an authorized signatory is unable to access the Compliance module in MARS, the district must submit a corrective action plan on District letterhead that is signed by an authorized signatory.

In addition to conducting the AR, one of the functions of the SA is to provide Technical Assistance (TA). During the course of the review, the SA Reviewer provided TA in several areas to the CND. TA is documented in MARS, specifically in the “Technical Assistance” section of the “Compliance” Module. TA is provided for the improvement of the program operations and is not considered a finding.

The SA would like to commend the SFA for the innovative food safety checklist system, the interactive online menus, the elaborate theming in the cafeterias that was welcoming and inviting, and the quality of the food. It is apparent that the menu planner puts obvious effort into unique offerings.

If you have any questions regarding this review, or if you would like to request additional assistance, please email me at nsmith@mdek12.org or call Mary Burks or myself at (601) 576-5004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Natalie Smith, Program Specialist
Office of Child Nutrition, School Support Division

cc: File NSLP (AR) 2021/2022
Valerie Weivoda, Child Nutrition Director

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

May 18, 2022

Lee County School District
Mr. Coke Magee, Superintendent
PO Box 1100
Verona, MS 38879-1100

Dear Mr. Magee:

Your response to the findings of our Administrative Review of your 2021-2022 National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), and After School Care Program (ASCP) 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) 576-5000. Thank you for your continued support of the Child Nutrition Programs.

Sincerely,



Natalie Smith, Program Specialist
Office of Child Nutrition, School Support Division

cc: File NSLP (AR) 2021/2022
Valerie Weivoda, Child Nutrition Director

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.