

January 24, 2022

Picayune School District Mr. Dean Shaw, Superintendent 706 Goodyear Boulevard Picayune, MS 39466-3220

Dear Mr. Shaw:

The State Agency (SA) completed an Administrative Review (AR) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Fresh Fruit and Vegatble (FFVP) during the week of December 13, 2021. An exit conference was conducted on January 20, 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, three (3) total findings were identified, including one (1) relating to Performance Standard 2. The SA is pleased to report that none of the findings have resulted in fiscal action. The findings which were identified are described below.

## Performance Standard 2: Meal Pattern and Nutritional Quality

• In accordance with 7 CFR 210.10 (c), the SFA must offer the food components and quantities required in the lunch meal pattern. The Nutrient Analysis revealed that the SFA is not serving enough whole grains. The SFA's current approved waiver stipulates that the SFA must serve 50% Whole Grain Rich (WGR) items over the course of the week, and the SFA is not meeting that goal. The SA will not seek fiscal action in this matter to align with USDA guidance (COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #100). In order to demonstrate corrective action, the SFA must revise the menu and nutrient analysis to include a sufficient quantity of WGR items. Documentation of corrective action must be submitted to the SA.

## **General Program Compliance:**

• 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"). The Reviewer noted that the SFA was selling baked goods that were not smart snack compliant, specifically the Spunkmeyers fresh baked

cookies. In order to demonstrate corrective action, the SFA must create a corrective action plan to ensure that all items sold meet smart snack compliance.

• In accordance with USDA Memo SP 31-2008, FFVP participating schools are required to widely publicize the availability of free fresh fruits and vegetables. While on site at Westside Elementary, the Reviewer noted that the site has no signage publicizing the FFVP program. In order to demonstrate corrective action, the SFA must provide proof that the program is being publicized properly.

The School Food Authority (SFA) **must provide a corrective action response to all findings** of the Review by **February 24, 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 on a job well done! The director and staff work very well together. The staff has built a rapport with students. They also demonstrate a sincere care and concern for the students. Keep up the great work!

If you have any questions regarding this review, or if you would like to request additional assistance, please email me at <u>jmay@mdek12.org</u> or call Mary Burks or me at (601) 576-5000.

Sincerely,

Jimmy May, Program Specialist

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Office of Child Nutrition, School Support Division

cc: File NSLP (AR) 2021/2022

Michael Binney, Child Nutrition Director



February 25, 2022

Picayune School District Dr. Dean Shaw, Superintendent 706 Goodyear Boulevard Picayune, MS 39466-3220

Dear Mr. Shaw:

Your response to the findings of our Administrative Review of your 2021-2022 National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) 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,

Jimmy May, Program Specialist

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Office of Child Nutrition, School Support Division

cc: File NSLP (AR) 2021/22

Michael Binney, Child Nutrition Director

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