

June 2, 2023

Nettleton School District Mr. Tim Dickerson, Superintendent 179 Mullen Avenue Nettleton, MS 38858-0000

Dear Mr. Dickerson:

Your response to the findings of our Administrative Review of your 2022-2023 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 Marianna Chauvin or me at (601) 576-5000. Thank you for your continued support of the Child Nutrition Programs.

Sincerely,

Gerardo Padilla, Program Specialist

Office of Child Nutrition, School Support Division

cc: File NSLP (AR) 2022/2023



May 18, 2023

Nettleton School District Mr. Tim Dickerson, Superintendent 179 Mullen Avenue Nettleton, MS 38858-0000

Dear Mr. Dickerson:

The State Agency (SA) completed an Administrative Review (AR) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) during the week of March 20, 2023. An exit conference was conducted on **April 14, 2023**. 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, including zero (0) findings relating to Performance Standard 1 or 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:

General Program Compliance (General Areas of Review)

- In accordance with FNS Instruction 782-5, Rev. 1, the expressed purpose of federal assistance is to safeguard the health and well-being of the nation's children, and that meals served to adults are not eligible under the authorizing legislation and regulations for federal cash reimbursement. The Reviewer noted that while conducting the off-site assessment, the SFA indicated that teachers are allowed to charge meals if they are short on cash at the POS. If adults are allowed to charge their meals, there is no way to ensure that the Non-Profit School Food Service Account does not encumber bad debt for the provision of teacher meals. In order to demonstrate corrective Action, the SFA must implement a policy to prevent adult meal charges and provide training on this policy to all District staff.
- In accordance with 7 CFR 210.13(a), the SFA shall ensure that food storage, preparation and service is in accordance with the sanitation and health standards established under State and local law and regulations. The Reviewer noted that during the breakfast grab-and-go, milk crates were placed on the ground. It is imperative that food items be stored at least 6 inches above the ground in accordance with applicable food safety regulations. This issue was corrected immediately while the SA was on site, as such no further corrective action is necessary.

The School Food Authority (SFA) **must provide a corrective action response to all findings** of the Review by **June 17**, **2023**. 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 the successful operation of the USDA FNS School Meal Program. The program has consistently met important nutritional standards, demonstrated efficient operations, implemented innovative practices, and achieved high participation rates. By providing students with healthy and appealing meals, you are helping to support their academic success and overall well-being. Your commitment to efficient operations ensures that meals are delivered on time and records are accurate, allowing you to maximize the impact of the program. We appreciate your use of innovative practices, such as offering breakfast near the bus loading/unloading zone and your use of technology to streamline operations, which have helped increase participation rates and make the program more effective. Your program is an important part of promoting healthy eating habits and supporting student success, and we applaud your ongoing efforts to maintain this high level of performance.

If you have any questions regarding this review, or if you would like to request additional assistance, please email me at gpadilla@mdek12.org or call Marianna Chauvin or me at (601) 576-5000

Sincerely,

Gerardo Padilla, Program Specialist

Office of Child Nutrition, School Support Division

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