About a year and a half ago, the big crisis in your foodservice world was if the source of your romaine lettuce was from Salinas, CA or Yuma, AZ! Many had concerns that the absence of romaine in their top of the line chef salads, providing dark leafy greens, was going to wreak havoc on their menus. My oh my, how times have changed!

When leaders, back in mid March, ordered staff to work from home, it was widely believed this would be a temporary measure and office buildings, schools and other businesses would be back to normal after a few weeks in April. WOW! How wrong was that speculation. Not many alive have experienced what you are enduring today. Focus on that word . . enduring. It encompasses the human challenges that have been overcome, the failures that provided lessons for learning so new processes could be implemented to achieve goals. It defines your persistence to succeed and encompasses the true journey of the staff of Child Nutrition programs throughout the great state of Mississippi. You endure during these challenging days knowing the importance of feeding children, especially those in need, must continue.

Besides, the work you do would not be the fun that it is without a little ‘ol pandemic. We are hopeful that the passion you have for feeding Mississippi’s children will be equally met by your district’s administrators, and that feeding solutions will be put in place to provide meals to all children next school year, regardless of the delivery method. CN Directors must be at the table to share their knowledge and experience with leadership to develop the best solutions to feed children safely.

Every year throws a challenge your way. This year may be unique, but with a deep breath, you will step back into the batters box and take your best swing, and as any good coach will tell you, base hits will win the game. So go out and make many base hits for children this year. The staff of purchasing and food distribution have been working to provide the tools you will need for your feeding efforts to be enduring and successful.
MILK

REGION 1  PRAIRIE FARMS
REGION 2  WRIGHT DAIRY*
REGION 3  PRAIRIE FARMS
REGION 4  PRAIRIE FARMS
REGION 5  BORDEN DAIRY
REGION 6  PRAIRIE FARMS
REGION 7  PRAIRIE FARMS

* Wright Dairy Distributors from Columbus, MS will deliver Barber and Prairie Farms brands.

ICE CREAM

PRAIRIE FARMS WILL DELIVER ICE CREAM TO ALL REGIONS OF THE STATE.

FULL LINE DISTRIBUTORS

BRIGGS—REGIONS 1 & 2, MERCHANTS REGIONS 3-7 FROZEN AND CRUMBLEY REGIONS 3-7 DRY HAVE ALL BEEN RENEWED TO PROVIDE DRY AND FROZEN FOODS FOR ANOTHER YEAR BEGINNING 1 JULY 2020 THROUGH 30 JUNE 2021.

PRODUCE

MS FRUIT & VEGETABLE-REGION 3, MERCHANTS FOODSERVICE-REGION 5 AND SUNRISE PRODUCE-REGIONS 4, 6 & 7 HAVE ALL BEEN RENEWED TO PROVIDE FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FOR ANOTHER YEAR BEGINNING 1 AUGUST 2020 THROUGH 31 JULY 2021.
**Item #3135** Tray, Large 3compt Foam Hinged (Clam Shell)—It is highly anticipated that this tray will be used at volume levels not seen before. Your contracted distributors will increase their purchase of this Clam Shell by 200,000 cases, (40 million containers). This Clam Shell is packed 200 per case versus the 500 per case of the 5 compt flat tray, meaning school districts will use and store 2½ times the amount of these Clam Shell trays. Most cafeterias will not be in use and will provide an excellent storage area. Finally, these Clam Shell cases will take up valuable space on the trucks for schools’ weekly deliveries. **It is important that these Clam Shells are ordered and delivered before reopening to provide an initial abundance of inventory.** Dart Container Corp. has agreed to supply Mississippi with 200,000 cases of this item throughout the school year. This is great news and we are thankful for their partnership.

**Item #3006** Bag, Paper Brown—the size of this bag has been increased from a six to an eight pound size providing increased dimensions and weight capability for grab and go food delivery options. The new size will ship upon depletion of current inventory.

**Item #3149** Bag, Plastic “T Shirt” To Go  – This grocery style plastic bag will allow for packaging multiple meals for transportation. They will accommodate three of the #3135 Clam Shells for students to transport meals home if the need arises. In stock now.
Item #3122  Lid, Clear plastic fits #3106—this lid provides a solution for the delivery of up to 3/4 of a cup of hot vegetables using the foam 6oz squat #3106.

Item #3226  Face Mask, Disposable— it is expected that food service staff will need to wear face masks during the work day. These masks will allow CN programs to provide masks to their adult employees.

Item #1215  Pancakes, Mini w/confetti—Individually wrapped whole grain mini pancakes with birthday cake flavor. Heat and eat single serve packets contribute 2 oz eq of whole grain.

Item #1247  Bread Slice, Lemon— the fourth flavor of the Superbakery Bread Super Slices now gives another option to the menu planner. Use all 4 flavors to maximize student selections: #1245 Zucchini, #1246 Pumpkin, #1247 Lemon and #1248 Banana.
Item #2610  Grandma’s Vanilla Blueberry Mini Bites— these single serve bags contribute 1 oz eq whole grain and can be used for breakfast or sold as a smart snack extra food sale item.

Items #1297, #1298, #1299  Cheese Planks - Three new individually wrapped cheeses have been added to provide more options. Each plank of IW cheese will contribute 1oz eq of MMA. The flavors are Buffalo Cheddar (not pictured), Jalapeno Pepper (below right) and Vintage Cheddar (below left) .
NEW PMC MEMBERS

Region 2 - Kenny Coker has been elected to complete the term vacated by the retiring Susie Walker.

Region 5 — Christell Hicks was unopposed and remains for a full 3 year term.

Region 6 — Lisa Little was unopposed and remains for a full 3 year term.

Non Publics — Martha Montiforte was unopposed and remains for another full 3 year term.

We are thankful for each of our PMC Members taking the extra time to ensure quality products are selected as approved brands for your purchasing program.

NEW PRODUCT FROM USDA!

We are excited to see how schools will substitute this new Shredded Pepper Jack Cheese in recipes such as Cheesy Chicken, Macaroni and Cheese, Cheeseburger Pie, Chicken Tetrazzini and many more. Tell us your success stories!!

Cheese, Pepper Jack, Shredded

- WBSCM ID: 111220
- Case contains 4/5-pound bags
- 1 oz cheese = 1 MMA
- Item shipped refrigerated
- 1,940 cases/truck
- Estimated price/case: $49.00
- Order by April 8, 2020; quarterly orders after this date
STORAGE FEES - USDA Foods that remain in warehouses represent a cost for distributors. This is an excess inventory and effectively increases the amount of storage space a distributor must maintain. The storage fees charged to schools/organizations provide reimbursement to distributors for holding these items and encourage organizations to draw down their USDA Foods locations. Distributors would rather deliver the USDA foods to RA’s than charge a storage fee.

The space that is taken up due to organizations not drawing down on their inventory is a growing problem. Beginning in SY 2020-2021, any storage fees will remain the responsibility of the organization that made the decision to incur the fee. Even if these foods are later transferred to another organization, the original recipient organization must pay the storage fee, not the organization that is receiving the food in the transfer.

Plan ahead. If you have USDA ground beef in inventory, do not purchase ground beef! If your USDA foods are approaching 60 days at the warehouse, make plans to take delivery or transfer the items. Don’t lose the value of your USDA Foods due to storage fees.

FFAVORS - All receipts must be entered in FFAVORS within 2 days of receipt of product. Failure to do so may result in being locked out of the system and missing an opportunity to order fruits and vegetables. There are no exceptions to this USDA policy.

Coming soon . . . new USDA software and website!
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<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>REPRESENTATIVE</th>
<th>TERM</th>
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| Superintendent | Tim Dickerson  
Nettleton School District  
Carolyn Barber  
Nettleton School District  
662-963-7409  
Cbarber@nettleton.k12.ms.us | July 1, 2018  
to  
June 30, 2021 |
| Supt. Proxy   | Carolyn Barber  
Nettleton School District  
662-963-7409  
Cbarber@nettleton.k12.ms.us | July 1, 2018  
to  
June 30, 2021 |
| Region 1      | Alexandra Hallmark  
Desoto County Schools  
662-449-7267  
Alex.hallmark@dcsms.org | July 1, 2019  
to  
June 30, 2022 |
| Region 2      | Kenny Coker  
Itawamba County School District  
662-862-2159  
kcoker@itawambacountyschools.com | July 1, 2020  
to  
June 30, 2021 |
| Region 3      | Clara Adams  
Leland School District  
662-686-5005  
claraadams@lelandk12.org | July 1, 2019  
to  
June 30, 2022 |
| Region 4      | Pam Kirby  
Rankin County Schools  
601-825-2257  
pkirby@rcsd.ms | July 1, 2019  
to  
June 30, 2022 |
| Region 5      | Christell Hicks  
Clinton Public School District  
601-924-4002 ext. 126  
chicks@clintonpublicschools.com | July 1, 2020  
to  
June 30, 2023 |
| Region 6      | Lisa Little  
Jones County School District  
601-649-6391  
lklittle@jones.k12.ms.us | July 1, 2020  
to  
June 30, 2023 |
| Region 7      | Ashley Harris  
Jackson County  
228-826-2133  
ashley.harris@jcsd.ms | July 1, 2018  
to  
June 30, 2021 |
| Non Publics   | Martha Montiforte  
Nativity BVM  
228-432-2269  
shrmpqn@hotmail.com | July 1, 2020  
to  
June 30, 2023 |
| Head Starts   | Mary Maiten Reed  
Washington County Opportunities  
662-332-1521  
mmaiten@wcoihs.com | July 1, 2019  
to  
June 30, 2022 |
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<td>Region 1</td>
<td>Pam George</td>
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<td>North Panola Schools</td>
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<td>Region 4</td>
<td>Ginny Hill</td>
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<td>Danny Dillistone</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:danny.dillistone@petalschools.com">danny.dillistone@petalschools.com</a></td>
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<td>Region 7</td>
<td>Karen Albrecht</td>
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<td>228-255-0376</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kalbrecht@hancockschools.net">kalbrecht@hancockschools.net</a></td>
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Purchasing and Food Distribution
Staff Directory

Bill Urban  Director  burban@mdek12.org  601-576-4980
Chainese Sly  Contract/Bid Specialist  csly@mdek12.org  601-576-4977
Adrienne Ealy  Product/Testing Specialist  aealy@mdek12.org  601-576-4983
Donna Stubbs  Donated Foods Specialist  dstubbs@mdek12.org  601-576-4978
Brianna Stringer  Donated Foods Specialist  bstringer@mdek12.org  601-576-4948