

Regional School Unit #34 Food Service

Alton, Bradley, & Old Town

June 16, 2021

From March 16, 2020, to June 14, 2021, we provided **315,960** meals (including breakfast and lunch) for 415 of those 455 days. We are over it, and we are hoping and praying that COVID-19 is over us!

Participation: May: 24,619 meals, 17 school days, 31 days. June: 11,526 meals; 15 days

Upcoming Legislation: LD 1679, *An Act to Address Student Hunger through Expanding Access to Free School Meals*, has passed through both the Senate and the House and is sitting on the Special Appropriations Table. The fiscal not attached to this bill in each of the three school years, beginning with 2022-2023, is \$34,021,267. *“Summary: This bill requires the State to pay the difference between the federal requirement for a free breakfast or lunch and the full price for a breakfast or lunch at no cost to the students who are ineligible for free or reduced-price school meals. It also directs schools and school administrative units to request parents and guardians to complete household income forms to determine eligibility for various state and federal food assistance programs. This bill also directs school administrative units to the maximum extent possible to maximize participation in federal school meal programs.”*

Summer Meal Program: Plans for summer include serving breakfast and lunch at Alton Elementary School, Leonard Middle School, Old Town Elementary School, Old Town High School, as well as at Old Town – Orono YMCA, and KidsPeace. We will also continue to provide bulk meals weekly to families at Whim Station, Pine Haven Park, Lincoln Green, & Bradley Municipal. The program will begin on July 6th and will end on August 13th. The schedule will be posted in the Penobscot Times, on our web site, and on our Facebook pages within the next week.

Summer Projects:

Summer Meal Training will be completed in the next couple of weeks for our staff and for the staff of our non-school sites.

LMS Kitchen will need to be licensed as a brand-new facility, so we are eagerly awaiting the time when it is completed, and we can submit the application and get the inspection behind us so that we will be ready to rock and roll in there.

We have a new Point of Sale program that has been waiting in the wings for its debut. There will be staff training that needs to be done just before school starts for that.

Inventory Analysis: Like most schools, we were unable to use the products we had planned to use during this school year, so we need to review and reorganize our menus to accommodate the Net Off Invoice and Commodity items that got lost in the shuffle of Covid menu planning and are waiting to be used up.

New Staff Training will be a little more organized and focused than in years past, simply because we will (hopefully) have so more staff than usual to start the year with and there will not be time for on-the-job training for that many people on day one. Right now, we are looking for at least 3-4 new people.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie

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