Minutes/September 11, 2023

The Board of Trustees of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties met at the Center for Advanced Technical Studies with the following members present:

Mrs. Elizabeth Barnhardt (Absent)
Mrs. Rebecca Blackburn Hines, Chair
Mr. Matt Hogan, Vice Chair
Mrs. Catherine Huddle
Mike Satterfield
Kevin Scully
Kimberly Snipes, Secretary
Dr. Akil Ross, Superintendent

The following staff were in attendance:

Dr. Michael Harris, Chief Student Services and Planning Officer
Mrs. Tina McCaskill, Chief Academics Officer
Ms. Maddison Paul, Chief Financial Officer
Mrs. Amanda Taylor, Director of Communications
Dr. Tamara Turner, Chief of Human Resources
Mr. Dave Weissman, Executive Director of Operations

A livestream video link was provided to the public as a viewing option for the September 11, 2023, board meeting.

Chair Blackburn Hines called the regular meeting to order and gave welcoming remarks.

Kimberly Snipes, Board of Trustees, gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board conducted the School Board Spotlight.

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Ross presented updates on District FOCUS: Strategic Plan Update for 2022-2023 to 2026-2027 and the District-Wide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Program; and Mrs. Tina McCaskill, Chief of Academics, gave an Academic Update.

During the public participation, Robert Thuss spoke about Jaguar Club event; Jerry Emanuel spoke about curriculum; Stephanie DiMaggio spoke about Irmo Tennis; Kim Murphy spoke about sewer line; and Danielle Gray spoke about Dutch Fork Alumni.

The Board presented for discussion:

- McMillian, Pazdan, Smith Population and Enrollment Forecasts, 2023-24 Through 2032-33 (Exhibit K)
- Student Nutrition Fees: USDA's Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

The board presented for information:

- Ten Day Enrollment Report (Exhibit L)
- Title I, Title II, and Title IV Programs for 2023-2024 (Exhibit M)
- Board Retreat, September 15, 2023, Saluda Shoals Park (River Center)

A = Absent
AB = Abstain
N = No
X = Yes
R = Recuse

Record of Voting

SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE
OF
LEXINGTON AND RICHLAND COUNTIES

Meeting of September 11, 2023

			BARNHARDT	BLACKBURN HINES	HOGAN	HUDDLE	SATTERFIELD	SCULLY	SNIPES
1.	M. Hogan	S. Satterfield	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Approve the agenda.								
2.	M. Hogan	S. Scully	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I make the motion to enter executive session to consider the following: a.) Selected employment items (Exhibit A) (Action); b.) Selected employment items (Exhibit B) (Information Only); c.) Contractual matter regarding District-Wide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Program (Exhibit C); d.) Contractual matter regarding Professional Development Services (Exhibit D); e.) Legal advice regarding request for sewer easement at Spring Hill High School (Exhibit N).								
3.	M. Hogan	S. Snipes	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that we approve the minutes of the August 21, 2023, board meeting.								
4.	M. Hogan	S. Snipes	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that we approve the selected employment items as shown in Exhibit A for action.								
5.	M. Huddle	S. Hogan	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that we deny the request for a sewer line easement at Spring Hill High School as shown in Exhibit N.								

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SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE
OF
LEXINGTON AND RICHLAND COUNTIES

Meeting of September 11, 2023

			BARNHARDT	BLACKBURN HINES	HOGAN	HUDDLE	SATTERFIELD	SCULLY	SNIPES
6.	M. Hogan	S. Snipes	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that the Board approve OFSA (Office of Federal & State Accountability) Waiver Form shown in Exhibit E.								
7.	M. Snipes	S. Hogan	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that we approve the second and final reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy IKACC "Placement of Non- Accredited Private and Home School Secondary Students" (Exhibit F); Board Policy IHCA "Summer School" (Exhibit G); Board Policy IJNDAA "Distance, Online, and Virtual Education" (Exhibit H); and Board Policy IKG "Secondary Education" (Exhibit I).								
8.	M. Hogan	S. Snipes	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that we approve the second and final reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy IKD "Honor Rolls" (Exhibit J).								
9.	M. Hogan	S. Snipes	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I make a motion that the Board adjourn to enter executive Session to consider the following: c.) Contractual matter regarding District-Wide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Program (Exhibit C); d.) Contractual matter regarding Professional Development Services (Exhibit D).								
10.	M. Snipes	S. Scully	A	X	X	N	X	X	X
	I make a motion that we approve the contractual matter regarding District-Wide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Program pending an adjustment to the subscription language (Exhibit C).								

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SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE
OF
LEXINGTON AND RICHLAND COUNTIES

Meeting of September 11, 2023

		BARNHARDT	BLACKBURN HINES	HOGAN	HUDDLE	SATTERFIELD	SCULLY	SNIPES
11.	M. Hogan S. Snipes I make a motion that the Board approve the contractual matter regarding Professional Development Services shown in Exhibit D.	A	X	X	X	X	X	X
12.	M. Snipes S. Hogan Adjourn at 9:53 p.m.	A	X	X	X	X	X	X

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N = No
X = Yes
R = Recuse

Greg Hembree
Vice Chairman

Patrick Haddon
Chairman

Child Food and Nutrition Services Study Committee

Karen Ables
Dorthea Baldwin
Clarissa Clark
Connie Cunningham
Donna Davis
John Ellis
Kambrell Garvin

Amber Gillum
Jermaine Johnson
Jim Johnson
Michael Johnson
Maria Reyes
James Ulmer
Joe Urban

(803) 734-3024 or (803) 212-6230

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

9:00 am

110 Blatt Building

Columbia, SC 29201

Agenda:

I. Opening

II. Adoption of Meeting Minutes

III. Testimony

IV. Committee Discussion

V. Adjournment

Attachment #1, pg. 1 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

Child Food and Nutrition Services Study Committee

Meeting Schedule

August 29, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting 1: Examine the advisability of transferring the administration of certain food and nutrition programs and initiatives of the Food and Nutrition Service Child Nutrition Program of the USDA currently administered by the SCDE to the SCDA:

- Look at all Federal and State Nutrition Programs and the goals and fiscal impact of each program
    a. National School Lunch Program under the Russell National School Lunch Act
    b. National School Breakfast Program
    c. After School Snack Program
    d. South Carolina Farm to School Program
    e. Emergency Food Assistance Program
    f. Commodity Supplemental Food Program
    g. Various Food and Dairy Safety Programs
    h. USDA Requirements on these programs through SCDE
    i. Summer Food Program
    j. Health and Wellness Program
- Effects of proper nutrition or the lack of proper nutrition on school aged children
    a. Behavioral/Mental
    b. Academic Challenges
    c. Social Aspects
    d. Family Challenges
    e. Learning and Testing abilities of children with proper nutrition
- Department of Education will provide the committee with an overview of where the federal and state dollars go for food and nutrition in the Department of Education.
- Discussion on the fiscal impact of transferring the program from the Department of Education to the Department of Agriculture.

September 12, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting 2: Whether these child-related national food and nutritional programs should be provided at no cost to all South Carolina students:

- Affects of School nutrition debt on families
- Effects of universal nutrition programs on SC students
    a. Cost of all programs
        i. Federal Dollars for each program
        ii. State Appropriations for each program
        iii. Reimbursement Rates for breakfast and lunch meals
        iv. Cost of take home snacks and/or meals for nighttime and weekend nutrition

Attachment #1, pg. 2 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

b. How to maximize student participation in free meals should it become law
c. Effects of universal program on school student structure
d. Effects of universal program on families
e. Effects of different lunch schedules per day on students and families
f. Potential Partnerships with the school wellness community advisory council
g. Potential Breakfast availabilities at the beginning of the school day.

September 26, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting 3: Examine ways to enhance collaboration and pricing to increase purchasing powers for SC farmers to ensure locally sources foods are being provided to schools.

- Economical affects through expanded agricultural sales for local producers and dairy farmers to and through the local school system.
    a. New Markets
    b. Barriers to the new markets
    c. Certifications needed
    d. Transportation Barriers
    e. Government Oversight and permitting through SCDA
    f. USDA *Toolkit* for Food Purchasers
    g. Creation of new Farm programs (Protein and Vegetable) within school districts.
        i. What are the benefits of creating new AG programs within school districts.
            1. Studies on Children knowing where food comes from vs Not knowing.
- School Nutrition Menus for School Aged Children
    a. USDA Standards for each meal
        i. Benefits of Dairy, Proteins, and vegetables.
    b. Comparison of Current and Different Cafeteria and kitchen management models used around South Carolina
        i. Cost for each model for average elementary, middle, and high school with different menu options and plan.
            1. What are the different needs for the different regions of SC?
    c. Pros and Cons of changing models
        i. Entry Barrier for School Districts transitioning into new nutrition model
        ii. Staffing needs for each nutrition system
        iii. Kitchen Equipment needs
        iv. Staffing Needs

October 24, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting 4: This meeting will focus on discussion by the committee members on the topics included in the statute. Committee members would offer conclusions and finding to be considered for inclusion in the final report. Representatives from the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture will be available at the meeting for any additional information or questions that the committee members may have for them.

Attachment #1, pg 3 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

South Carolina General Assembly
125th Session, 2023-2024

Download This Bill in Microsoft Word format

A89, R13, H3312

STATUS INFORMATION

Joint Resolution
Sponsors: Reps. Haddon, Hixon, Forrest, Trantham, Chumley, Cobb-Hunter and Williams
Document Path: LC-0026WAB23.docx

Introduced in the House on January 10, 2023
Introduced in the Senate on February 8, 2023
Last Amended on March 22, 2023
Currently residing in the House

Summary: Child Food and Nutrition Services Study Committee

Attachment #2 pg. 1 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Kinder pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

Date	Body	Action Description with journal page number
12/8/2022	House	Prefiled
12/8/2022	House	Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs**
1/10/2023	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 130)
1/10/2023	House	Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** (House Journal-page 130)
1/31/2023	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Cobb-Hunter
2/1/2023	House	Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** (House Journal-page 5)
2/7/2023	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Williams
2/7/2023	House	Amended (House Journal-page 40)
2/7/2023	House	Read second time (House Journal-page 40)
2/7/2023	House	Roll call Yeas-113 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 41)
2/8/2023	House	Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 19)
2/8/2023	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 42)
2/8/2023	Senate	Referred to Committee on **Agriculture and Natural Resources** (Senate Journal-page 42)
3/15/2023	Senate	Committee report: Favorable **Agriculture and Natural Resources** (Senate Journal-page 20)
3/22/2023	Senate	Amended (Senate Journal-page 23)
3/22/2023	Senate	Read second time (Senate Journal-page 23)
3/22/2023	Senate	Roll call Ayes-44 Nays-1 (Senate Journal-page 23)

Date	Body	Action Description with journal page number
3/23/2023		Scrivener's error corrected
3/23/2023	Senate	Read third time and returned to House with amendments (Senate Journal-page 15)
3/27/2023		Scrivener's error corrected
3/29/2023	House	Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled (House Journal-page 24)
3/29/2023	House	Roll call Yeas-111 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 24)
4/19/2023		Ratified R 13
4/25/2023		Signed By Governor
4/27/2023		Effective date 04/25/23
7/6/2023		Act No. 89

Attachment #2 pg. 2 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

View the latest legislative information at the website

VERSIONS OF THIS BILL

12/08/2022
02/01/2023
02/07/2023
02/07/2023-A
03/15/2023
03/22/2023
03/23/2023
03/27/2023
03/28/2023

(Text matches printed bills. Document has been reformatted to meet World Wide Web specifications.)

(A89, R13, H3312)

A JOINT RESOLUTION TO CREATE THE "CHILD FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES STUDY COMMITTEE", TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURPOSES AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE STUDY COMMITTEE, TO REQUIRE THE STUDY COMMITTEE PREPARE A REPORT WITH FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE STUDY COMMITTEE.

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly finds the South Carolina Department of Agriculture currently administers numerous programs related to food and nutrition, including the South Carolina Farm to School Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and various food and dairy safety programs; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly finds the South Carolina Department of Education administers certain other child-related national food and nutrition programs and initiatives of the United States Department of Agriculture, including the school lunch program, school breakfast program, afterschool snack program, special milk program, and summer food service programs; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly finds it worthwhile to consider whether administration of these child-related national food and nutrition programs by the Department of Agriculture rather than the Department

of Education is a more logical and efficient approach, given the Department of Agriculture's relationship to matters concerning food and nutrition; and

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly finds it worthwhile to consider whether these child-related national food and nutrition programs should be provided at no cost to all South Carolina students. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

Creation, purposes, composition, functions, and dissolution of the study committee

SECTION 1. (A) There is created the "Child Food and Nutrition Services Study Committee" to examine the advisability of transferring the administration of certain food and nutrition programs and initiatives of the Food and Nutrition Service Child Nutrition Program of the United States Department of Agriculture currently administered by the State Department of Education to the State Department of Agriculture and whether these child-related national food and nutritional programs should be provided at no cost to all South Carolina students. These programs include, but are not limited to, the school lunch program, school breakfast program, afterschool snack program, special milk program, and summer food service programs. The committee must also examine ways to enhance collaboration and pricing to increase purchasing powers for South Carolina farmers to ensure locally sourced foods are being provided to schools.

(B) The study committee is composed of:

(1) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) one member appointed by the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee;

(3) one member appointed by the Chairman of the House Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee;

(4) one member appointed by the House Minority Leader;

(5) one member appointed by the President of the Senate;

(6) one member appointed by the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee;

(7) one member appointed by the Chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee;

(8) one member appointed by the Senate Minority Leader;

(9) one member appointed by the State Superintendent of Education;

(10) the Director of the Department of Social Services or his designee;

(11) two members from a local school district's food services department appointed by the State Superintendent of Education;

(12) one member appointed by the State Commissioner of Agriculture;

(13) two members appointed by the Governor who are employed by nonprofit service providers that specialize in hunger relief; and

(14) two members who have a child that is a recipient of free and reduced lunch appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

Attachment #2 page 3 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

(C) Members of the study committee shall serve without compensation, but are allowed the mileage, subsistence, and per diem allowed by law for members of state boards, committees, and commissions, to be paid equally from approved accounts of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(D) The study committee shall choose its officers and must be provided with clerical, administrative, and research services by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(E) The study committee shall make a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2024, at which time the study committee terminates.

Time effective

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 19th day of April, 2023.

Approved the 25th day of April, 2023.

This web page was last updated on August 3, 2023 at 11:17 AM

Attachment #2 pg. 4 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

District Five OF LEXINGTON & RICHLAND COUNTIES

Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>

Agenda Item Request

7 messages

Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 10:14 AM
To: Akil Ross <aross@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>

Rebecca, please note I have blind copied Matt and Kimberly.

Please add an agenda item to our next meeting to discuss the possibility of providing free lunch to all students at all schools.

Like me, you're probably getting calls and emails about this issue. Increasing the meal prices has, in my opinion, exacerbated the issue. Also another Lexington district is providing meals for all students at all schools.

I realize this is a budget issue but I think we should discuss and examine potential budgeted items we could reallocate to make this work.

Thank you,
Cathy
--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org> Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 10:34 AM
To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Akil Ross <aross@lexrich5.org>
Bcc: Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Kimberly Snipes <ksnipes@lexrich5.org>

Already on it; I intend to ask this item to be placed on our Sept. 11th agenda. I have heard rumblings that the General Assembly may actually be called to address this as well, but I am waiting on confirmation and additional details on that request.

Thanks!
[Quoted text hidden]

Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 4:06 PM
To: Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>

Thanks!
Cathy
[Quoted text hidden]

Akil Ross <aross@lexrich5.org> Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 7:33 PM
To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>

Which Lexington district is providing free lunches to all students?
On Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 10:15 AM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:
[Quoted text hidden]

--

Attachment #3, Pg. 1 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

Dr. Akil E. Ross, Sr.
Superintendent
School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
o: 803.476.8169 e: aross@lexrich5.org
www.lexrich5.org

"We love and grow our students!"

Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 10:48 PM
To: Akil Ross <aross@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>

https://www.lexingtonchronicle.com/stories/all-students-at-3-lexington-county-districts-set-to-receive-free-meals,61846

Thanks,
Cathy
[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> Sat, Aug 19, 2023 at 12:01 AM
To: Akil Ross <aross@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>

It appears that all other Lexington County districts were able to get their entire district qualified under CEP.

In doing further research on this, I saw a lot of news articles referencing board discussions and a budget proviso (attached).

I think we may be in violation of this proviso since I don't believe we have adopted a resolution.

Also, it appears our district in total is over the 40% required to adopt CEP district wide. However, I am sure there is more to it than that!

Just passing all of this along in case it helps.

Thanks,
Cathy

Attachment #3 pg. 2 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

1.76. (SDE: Student Meals) For the current fiscal year, all school districts shall identify students in poverty according to the provisions in Proviso 1.3 of this act and increase access to free school meals for these students. School districts shall use the criteria to directly certify pupils eligible for free and reduced-price school meals to the extent permitted under federal law. The local board of trustees of a district in which all schools are eligible to receive the free federal reimbursement rate for all reimbursable school breakfasts and lunches served, pursuant to the Community Eligibility Provision in Section 1759(a) of Title 42 of the United States Code, shall adopt a resolution indicating participation. If a district is unable to participate, the local board of trustees shall adopt a resolution stating that it is unable to participate in CEP and demonstrate the reasons why. The resolution shall be published on a public meeting agenda concurrently with the proposed district budget as an action item and shall be approved by a majority of the board. School districts shall ensure that the parents or guardians of students eligible for free and reduced lunch receive the necessary applications and instructions and upon request are provided with assistance in completing the paperwork. Schools shall not publically identify a student who is unable to pay for a meal for any reason. Communications from the district regarding any meal debt owed must only be directed to the parent or guardian and may be sent home through the student.

1.77. (SDE: Consolidate Administrative Functions) For the current fiscal, any school district that has an average daily membership of less than 1,500 students, has been designated in Fiscal Watch, Caution or Emergency status, has a risk assessment of medium or high, has a school or is a district with an accreditation status of probation or denied, or has a school or schools that have been in improvement status for three years may be directed by the State Superintendent of Education to consolidate administrative and professional services with one or more school districts. Administrative and professional services may include, but are not limited to: finance, human resources, procurement, administrative functions, transportation and collaboration on increasing instructional offerings. The Superintendent shall notify a district in writing that they meet one or more of the criteria. The district then has thirty

[Quoted text hidden]

Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> Sat, Aug 19, 2023 at 12:01 AM
To: Akil Ross <aross@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>

Note - all except us and D1
Thanks,
Cathy
[Quoted text hidden]

Attachment #3 pg. 3 is included with the minutes of the 7-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hines pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

Community Eligibility Provision

About the Program

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) provides an opportunity for schools and local educational agencies (LEAs) in high poverty areas to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students without the burden of collecting and processing school meal applications for free and reduced price meals. CEP was a key provision of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) of 2010.

Am I Eligible to Participate in CEP?

To be eligible for CEP, an LEA, group of schools, or school must:

- Ensure that at least 40 percent of enrolled students are identified students
- Participate in both the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP); and
- Serve lunches and breakfasts, at no charge, to all students.

Identified Students

CEP is available to LEAs and schools with 40 percent or more "identified students" as of the most recent April 1. Identified students are those directly certified for free meals without a school meal application. Students can be directly certified through:

- Participation in Assistance Programs: a child (or any member of the child's household) receives benefits from SNAP, FDPIR, or TANF, as determined through direct certification,
- Other Source Categorically Eligible Designation: a child is enrolled in a Federally-funded Head Start or comparable State-funded Head Start or pre-kindergarten program, or is a homeless, runaway, migrant, or foster child.

Program Benefits

Schools implementing the provision have experienced great success, allowing them to make numerous improvements to their school nutri-tion programs.

- Easing administrative burden.
- Increasing participation.
- Improving efficiency.
- Eliminating stigma.
- Fighting childhood hunger.

Attachment #4, pg. 1 is included with the minutes of the 4-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hayes pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

CEP Details

Calculating the ISP

- To determine the ISP, LEAs and schools divide the number of identified students as of April 1 by the number of enrolled students as of April 1, and then multiply by 100.
- SFAs can participate at all schools or at a group of schools within the SFA

Claiming Rate

- For schools participating in CEP, the ISP multiplied by 1.6 equals the percentage of meals that can be claimed at the free rate. The remaining meals served, up to 100 percent, are reimbursed at the paid rate.

Grouping

- For schools participating in CEP, the ISP multiplied by 1.6 equals the percentage of meals that can be claimed at the free rate. The remaining meals served, up to 100 percent, are reimbursed at the paid rate.

April 15 Notification and Data Collection Requirements

- LEAs must provide current year school level eligibility data to State agencies

June 30 Election Deadline

- No later than June 30, interested and eligible LEAs must notify their State agency of their intent to elect CEP

Implementation

- For SFA wide participation the SFE takes the total number of identified students divided buy the total number of student enrolled in the SFA to determine the ISP

- For partial participation the SFA takes the number of students identified at the selected schools divided by the enrollment for the selected schools

Participation Length

- CEP is a 4 year contract
- The claiming percentage can increase during the contract if the ISP increases during the 4 year cycle
- Participating LEAs or schools that continue to meet the 40 percent threshold as of April 1 in Year 4 of the 4-year cycle are able to, with the State agency's authorization, immediately begin another 4-year cycle in the following school year. The ISP must be established using the most recent April 1 data

Contact Us

803-734-5000
info@ed.sc.gov
fft.ed.sc.gov
1429 Senate Steet, Columbia SC 29211

Highlights

SFA Highlights
Office of Health and Nutrition
Farm to School
Culinary Corner

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Attachment #4 pg. 2 is included with the minutes of the 9-11-23 meeting, at the request of Board member Rebecca Blackburn Hynes pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.