IROQUOIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Business Office

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Nutrition/Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes – March 12, 2026

1. Open **Meeting** **- John**
   a. Attendance:

John Wolski	Heather Becker	Doug Beetow (Absent)
Kim Ries	Debbie Becker (Absent)	Erin Watkins (TEAMS)

2. Review **of Minutes** **-John**
   a. Minutes from **January 22, 2026.**

Minutes were reviewed and approved.

3. **Old Business**

a) Farm-to-School Initiative **-Kim**

John indicated that we have been working on this initiative for years. There are no significant changes other than Supply Chain money has been depleted. Personal Touch will continue to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables out of their budget.

Personal Touch continuously works to increase the percentage of farm fresh items offered to students toward the farm-to-school initiative.
The NYS Supply Chain Assistance Fund given to us in December 2023 was $58,663.00.

b) Nurse staffing updates **-John**

We are fully staffed with school nurses and a floater nurse. We added a new substitute nurse to the list who would like to be in the district long term. She completed training last week with Jen Brooks and another substitute nurse through the INC. Agency. It gets busy this time of the year for the nurses with the increased number of field trips.

John is still covering the Nurse Coordinator duties but will be trying to find someone to fill the position soon.

c) Cafeteria Fund Balance **-John**

We purchased a lot of equipment this year using the cafeteria fund balance. John said that with the free and reduced lunches this year, we will have to evaluate the balance at the year end to see what more can be purchased. Kim gave John a list of smaller items and he asked that she prioritize these items.

Kim confirmed that we replaced the milk coolers at the Intermediate Building and the High School.

She also mentioned that the Marilla oven has been a problem and is constantly getting repaired by our District Maintenance staff. ***John will get quotes from Glenn to see the cost to replace.*** The II dishwasher is scheduled to be replaced over the summer though; we may have to hold off if we need to purchase an oven.

Dishwasher racks need to be replaced. ***John asked Kim to give him a count and a picture of the item.*** He said that we may be able to purchase some now and some later.

Our District may only have a certain dollar amount in the Fund Balance at the end of the year as NYS does not want us to accumulate too much money. During our Annual Review NYS requires us to develop a plan on how to spend the money.

d) Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act -John/Kim

Kim announced the partial implementation of the new milk program. She indicated that it is a regulation that they serve only 1% or skim milk during breakfast.

She introduced whole milk across the district for lunch, and it is going very well. She ordered a case of whole milk for Elma Primary but ended up having to throw out because it was not being taken.

John asked the committee if we should notify parents of the program through the Superintendent's weekly message. Kim suggested that we wait until she brings in the 2% milk and see how the product moves. ***She will discuss with Debbie Becker about putting something on the website regarding the Milk Program.***

Kim received an email about President Trump passing legislation, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, offering whole and 2% milk options in addition to, 1% and nonfat milk currently provided in schools. ***Kim will update us at the next meeting.***

e) NYS Health Kitchen Inspections -Kim

There was a problem with mice droppings at the Middle School, and it did not pass the health inspection. Kim advised that it was, specifically a cleanup issue. She instructed her staff to clean the counter tops thoroughly and have the building crew clean the kitchen and cafeteria floors. Additional traps were added in the hallways and outside. She would go in early every day to make sure there were not any droppings. As a preventative measure, Kim purchased plastic bins to store dry food.
John will ask Bob Walczyk what type of mouse traps are set by our exterminator, Suburban Pest.

Kim announced that the first round of all six (6) NYS Health Inspections has been done this year and have passed. She now must print and hang new health inspection postings up in the kitchen next week.

f) New Proposed Programs:

Kim advised that Personal Touch hired a new nutritionist, Jamie. She just started 2 weeks ago and presented at a meeting.
She will provide us with her name and email address so we can invite her to our next Wellness Meeting in May.

5. New Items:

- **UPK Meals:** Board members were sent a picture of the UPK meals served at Wales Primary and complained that the portions were very small and the items were cold. Personal Touch does not dictate the portion sizes for meals. Kim distributed to the teachers a sheet with NYS regulations on portions sizes.
  A reason for the meals being cold is that some UPK classes choose to eat in their classroom, and some go to the cafeteria. The meals are placed on carts and by the time they are wheeled to the classroom, they lose heat. NYS does not require UPK students to eat in a specific location.

  Kim discussed with her people to see how they can eliminate these concerns. They recommend that some of the food items be placed in a portion cup and kept in the warmer until they see the teacher or aide come in for the meals. They are also rotating the fruits daily to offer more of a variety. She said that things are going much better now.

  At Elma, half the UPK classes eat in the classroom and half in the cafeteria. All Marilla UPK classes eat in the cafeteria.

  Kim mentioned that her staff has accommodated the UPK teachers and aides, as per their request, by providing pizza more often for students. Also, the kitchen staff are overseeing Teachers/Staff who want to use the kitchen once a month to bake or cook their own food for the kids.
  John will contact Kim Morrison about why students eat in the classroom vs. cafeteria.

- **Summer Food Program:** Heather asked if we had received any information about the Summer Food Program and where they were offering. Last year it was at one of the schools in the Cheektowaga School District and was not convenient for our families in the Wales area. John said that when we find out we will post on the website. Kim mentioned that Debbie thinks that our district may have to do next summer.

6. Meeting Dates for 2025-2026:

May 7, 2026

7. Adjournment