



**IROQUOIS CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Business Office

Mr. John Wolski,
Business Administrator
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Nutrition/Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2026

1. Open Meeting

- John

a. Attendance:

John Wolski
Kim Ries

Heather Becker
Debbie Becker (Absent)

Doug Beetow (Absent)
Erin Watkins (Absent)

2. Review of Minutes

-John

a. Minutes from **May 8, 2025.**

Minutes were reviewed and approved.

3. Old Business

a) Farm-to-School Initiative

-Kim

Personal Touch is still pursuing the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables as part of this initiative. They get produce from Eden, Bipperts, and Preston Farms. They add a couple of fresh produce items on the menu 4-6 items per month. Next week they will be preparing potatoes and before that they added roasted cauliflower, spinach, and coleslaw. Every week they highlight something new. Kim emphasized that they enjoy when students try new foods and tell their parents. The SCA (Supply Chain Account) balance is approximately \$2,357.00. Once that amount is exhausted, the invoices will go directly to Personal Touch to pay. Kim forwarded an email to John regarding a grant for equipment and noted that we have one more dishwasher to replace at the Intermediate School Building.

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. It was suggested that she reach out to the school Business Official to determine what we want to offer.

Currently we offer 1% and nonfat milk with white and chocolate options.

Whole and 2% milk will be available in the next couple of weeks.

Kim does not want to display all three types of milk for all grades as she believes students will be confused.

After our committee discussion, we decided to try the following: whole milk for UPK students; 1% & 2% milk options for the primary schools and upper grades. We can implement this for now and change it in the future.

Options for lower sugar content, chocolate and/or strawberry milk may become available soon in the 1% or 2% options.

Kim will update us at the next meeting.

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

John indicated that we changed nurses at Marilla Primary School. Kelly Jean Helbling, was a substitute nurse in the district, and is exceptionally good. While this hire reduces our sub list, John reached out to INC, a temporary nursing agency, to set up training with one of their nurses and Jen Brooks. It is noted that we always post for sub nurses on our website.

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 used the cafeteria fund balance to purchase new dishwashers. They are very costly, approximately \$20,000 each. We added the serving line at the Middle School which is working out well and the new fridge at the Intermediate building. The Intermediate School dishwasher is scheduled to be replaced this summer.

Heather noticed that there is an old refrigerator at the High School that is not being used. Kim said that it hasn't worked in years and cannot be repaired. The problem is removing it as it is very heavy. John explained to Kim the process of sending the asset tag to us to obsolete the item on the Board Agenda. Once this is approved, our staff can remove it.

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) Website

-John/Kim

The Meal Modification Plan is not on the website as it is used for very specific student medical conditions. The nurses keep control of the distribution of these forms. For most student allergies, the nurses email Kim and she will add notes to their accounts. Kim said that everything runs smoothly when communication is in place.

Personal Touch bought a new LINQ software program for menus that links nutritional facts to every menu item. It was implemented and Kim has been trained. She explained that it took a couple of months to learn the menu design program.

The website and menus now include information on how parents can make a payment on their child's lunch account without being charged the transaction service fee through MySchoolBucks.

Kim will ask Debbie Becker about the service fee charged per transaction on MySchoolBucks. It was her understanding that since meals were free this year, MSB was not going to charge families.

e) Free Meals (Impact):

This school year, due to the anticipated increase in volume of meals, Personal Touch hired additional people at Marilla Primary, Wales, and High School.

Kim is pleased with the daily numbers for breakfast and lunch meals. Overall, she estimates a 60% increase in breakfast and 40% increase in lunch meals across the district.

She was surprised by the numbers at the primary schools.

While Wales Primary serves an amazing number of breakfast meals, they are the lowest number for lunches compared to the other primary buildings. The primary school numbers went up 50-60 meals daily, II breakfast numbers around 79 and the Middle School numbers are 70-80 for breakfast and lunch numbers went up significantly.

The High School went up to 200 meals per day and 100 breakfast per day.

John suggested that Kim ask Chris Ginestre to help her promote breakfast meals.

Kim said that Ryan Harding announces the lunch menu over the speaker every day and they do approximately 79 breakfast meals daily.

Kim mentioned that the students love their pizza! They serve over 40 pizzas per day at the High School. Breakfast pizza is offered twice a month.

Kim notes all allergy information into the system and has not had any issues. She mentioned that this year they have a student who has a gluten allergy at the II Building. She had to bring in many gluten-free items for him including rolls, bread, pizza dough, and special procedures are in place for the preparation of his meals.

f) New Proposed Programs:

Kim informed us that Perry is no longer employed with Personal Touch. They have hired a new Nutritionist who will continue to implement the same programs such as free food tastings in addition to attending our Wellness Meetings. They will do the food samples at the Middle School in the next couple of months. **Kim will provide us with the name of this person.**

5. New Items:

- Kim announced that the first round of all six (6) NYS Health Inspections were done this year and have passed. She now must print and hang new health inspection postings up in the kitchen next week.
- John asked Kim about a few smaller items still needing to be purchased. She received the cutting gloves and thermometers and is still wanting the oven mitts. Recently, she purchased totes for dry food storage to help with pest control.
- John asked if Kim was aware of any new federal regulations coming through. Heather mentioned that she heard or read something about the possible change in portion sizes or an increase in protein for school meals.

6. Meeting Dates for 2025-2026:

March 12, 2026

7. Adjournment