



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FOOD SERVICE TASK FORCE

MINUTES

March 11, 2020

The meeting was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, Gateway Center, 2nd Floor Board Room, 54 Meadow Street, New Haven, CT 06519.

Present: Mr. Matt Wilcox, Ms. Kimberly Acosta, Ms. Raven A. Blake, Mr. Austin Bryniarski, Mr. Larry Conaway, Mr. Danny Gant, Ms. Susan Harris, Mx. Adrian Huq, Ms. Latha Swamy,
Staff: Ms. Gail Sharry

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Matt Wilcox called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

II. **INTRODUCTIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Wilcox introduced himself. Afterward, attendees and members of the committee took turns at introducing themselves.

III. **CHOCOLATE MILK PILOT for HIGH SCHOOLS: Update on Implementation**

The chocolate milk pilot started on January 8, 2020 and will run through June 2020. Ms. Sharry stated that milk consumption continues to increase with the addition of chocolate milk to the menu. Milk consumption will continue to be monitored and data will be collected.

IV. **FOOD ADVISORY MEETINGS: Discussion of recent meetings, what we are learning, and a reminder of the request of some meetings targeting students with limited diets**

Managers continue to hold food advisory meetings. Students are engaging in the process, learning more about meal components, and are giving positive feedback.

V. **CAFETERIA FOOD WASTE, COMPOSTING, and PLASTIC USE:**

A. **Update on SCROG Pilot Program on Food Waste:**

A resolution has passed to begin the pilot program through the City of New Haven. Funding has been approved for two schools. A third school may be added to the pilot program pending available funding. Sites include Metropolitan, Sound, and

possibly Columbus schools. Future meetings and plans are being developed. The program will start during the 2020-2021 school year. The committee will be updated as decisions and changes occur. A discussion ensued.

B. Update on District Response to Student Recycling and Food Waste Ideas

Ms. Sharry is working on creating food pantries at schools following state and federal guidelines. Mx. Huq started a food share box at her school.

- VI. SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM:** The first official Summer Meals Meeting was held on February 28, 2020 at 9:00 at Central Kitchen, another meeting has been planned, and an outreach group is working on outreach plans. It has been decided that the same sites from last year will be used, but if changes are made the state will be notified. Once sites are confirmed, notices will be sent out. Transportation plans for delivery of food to the sites are being developed. A summer meals guide is being created as reference for future planning.
- VII. FOOD SERVICE in CASE of SCHOOL SHUTDOWN:** Ms. Sharry is working with the State Department of Education in partner with the USDA in the planning of serving food in the event of a school shutdown. The health department will work with Ms. Sharry in determining the sites where food will be served and methods that can be used. The Summer Meals protocols will be followed during such shutdown. Precautionary methods are being implemented such as shutting down self-serve salad bars and the Food Service Department is preparing in the event of a school shutdown.
- VIII. SCHOOL FOOD PROCUREMENT:** Ms. Acosta is researching the Good Food Purchasing Program. Research includes following-up with cities that are already participating, best practices used, building a coalition, and sharing the information with communities. The process is in the exploratory stage and will be discussed as information is gathered.
- IX. SNAP ADVOCACY UPDATE:** No updates have happened since the last meeting.
- X. UPDATE on DISCUSSION ABOUT DEADLY ALLERGIES and ISSUES RELATED to FOOD SERVICE:** Food Service staff continue to follow safety procedures. Work with the IT department is ongoing to make accessing information in PowerSchool more streamlined.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, 2020, at 5:00 p. m. in Gateway Center, 2nd Floor Board Room, 54 Meadow Street, New Haven, CT 06519. Agenda items are due to chair by 10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 2, 2020.

- XI. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.