



Alabama Child Nutrition Programs

CNP Newsletter

Fall 2023

The background of the central section is dark with a collage of autumn leaves in various shades of green, yellow, orange, and red. Scattered among the leaves are several colored pencils in green, yellow, orange, and red.

hello

to each of our CNP Sponsors!

It's hard to believe that summer is gone, a new school year has begun, and fall is in the air!. ALSDE CNP Staff thanks everyone for the remarkable job you all are doing for the children and adults across Alabama. There are a lot of topics in the FALL newsletter, and we hope you find the information helpful.

CNP is **always** busy, new ideas are **always** exciting and changes are **always** being made. No matter where you work in CNP, there is **always** something to do! Thanks for working hard and working together! Keep up the amazing work!

ALSDE CNP Staff

Please send all submissions for the CNP newsletter to: Penni Jeter, pjeter@alsde.edu

A photo release for any pictures of children sent to ALSDE should be kept on file at the local office.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION

BREAK for a PLATE
COMMUNITY

Office: 334.694.4659
FoodDist@alsde.edu



Community Feeding/Food Distribution

Part of being a community is looking out for one another, making sure needs are met. Often those needs are nutritional. Across the state, there is a program to feed those who would otherwise go hungry.

Food distribution manages and supervises the supply of foods to public schools and other eligible participants in the National School Lunch Program.

Through the program we operate the statewide procurement program as well as manage USDA Foods for the Emergency Food Assistance Program and The Commodity Supplemental Food Program. The state's network of food banks plays a vital role in distributing these food items to those who need them in our communities.

Statewide Procurement Order Guide

To access the current nutritional product guides and specification sheets, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Statewide Procurement, School orders, and Manufacturer Rebates [EMAIL](#)

Food Banks (TEFAP, CSFP), USDA Foods, DOD, and USDA Rebates [EMAIL](#)



Programs



Participate



Resources

Child and Adult Care Food Program

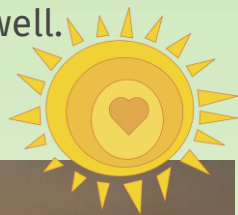


Office: 334.694.4659
CACFP/SFSP

The National Child Nutrition Conference is the premier annual event held by the **National CACFP Sponsors Association**, bringing together professionals from childcare centers, home providers, sponsoring organizations, school districts, afterschool programs, Head Start programs, Food Banks, tribal nations and State Agencies.

Fly in on Monday and stay until Friday! The 2024 Conference will be held at the Rosen Shingle Creek from Tuesday-Thursday, April 23-25, 2024, but there will be additional training opportunities available on Monday and Friday as well.

Get ready for a jam-packed schedule of training, networking and fun!



38th National **CHILD NUTRITION CONFERENCE**

April 22-26, 2024

Orlando, Florida

**NATIONAL
CACFP SPONSORS
ASSOCIATION**



[Registration Opens Nov 1](#)

[National Child
Nutrition Conference](#)

National CACFP Sponsors Association Upcoming Conferences

Location

Dallas, Texas
Las Vegas, Nevada

Dates

April 14-18, 2025
April 13-17, 2026





What's new: Start the new school year on a firm financial footing with [“Managing the Problem of Meal Debt,”](#) a new *SN Plus* article, that covers positive, proactive strategies for combating meal debt, such as:

- Reviewing your meal charge policy
- Stepping up the collection of meal applications
- And more!

Why it matters: As districts begin a second year without the financial protection of federal waivers providing universally free meals—and as parents continue to face economic hardships in the wake of the pandemic and high inflation—school nutrition directors are braced to contend with the consequences of meal charges.

 **Keep reading:** The article is available to [read and print here](#). Sharing is caring, so send the link to school administrators and colleagues throughout the district.

School Nutrition thanks [Basic American Foods](#) for its support in making this article available.



Shaping Tomorrow Together
Join us for SNA's Annual National Conference (ANC)
July 14-16, 2024 | Boston, Mass.

About the Annual National Conference

Known as the School Nutrition Event of the Year, the School Nutrition Association's Annual National Conference (ANC) unites thousands of school nutrition program operators, industry partners, and allied organizations for an unparalleled educational and networking experience every July.



National School Lunch Week

National School Lunch Week

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) serves nearly 30 million children every school day. President John F. Kennedy created National School Lunch Week (NSLW) in 1962 to promote the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child's life and the impact it has inside and outside of the classroom.

#NSLW23 will be celebrated October 9-13, 2023.



Power Up Your #NSLW23 Celebration!

Are you ready to "Level Up" your school lunch game?

 As [National School Lunch Week](#) (#NSLW23) approaches, we're excited to introduce the ultimate way to power up your celebration: the official [#LevelUpWithSchoolLunch](#) merchandise from the [SNA Shop](#)!

Spend your coins wisely and gear up for an incredible NSLW experience. We can't wait to see how you bring the gaming spirit to life during this year's celebration.



United States Department of Agriculture





Resources for a Legendary School Lunch Week!

[National School Lunch Week](#) is loading...October 9-13! 🎮 Have you crafted your master plan yet?

😊 Check out the newly dropped [SNA-provided resources](#) (Spanish translations coming soon!):

- [Official #NSLW23 Toolkit](#). This manual is available exclusively for SNA members and includes a logistical checklist, social media guidance, tips for arranging media events and more.
 - [Activity Guide & Coloring Sheets](#). Give students a fun way to power up their creativity with printable activity and coloring sheets.
 - [#NSLW23 Merchandise](#). Check out the SNA Shop for a treasure trove of items designed to make your NSLW festivities unforgettable. Order by September 18 to ensure the best selection and on-time delivery.
 - [Infographics](#). Share the benefits of school meals with parents, caretakers and community members with this easy one-pager.
 - [Additional resources](#) include a customizable press release and proclamation, a social media toolkit (*coming soon*), official artwork and more.
- 🏆 Get ready to conquer [#NSLW23](#)! Don't miss out on these power-ups—access your resources today and gear up for an epic week!

#NSLW23 resources are supported by [Kellogg's](#).

MEALTIME MEMO



Share the monthly [Mealtime Memos](#) with families or use the information in your resources for families. Mealtime Memos provide a wealth of topics that can be adapted for families, including menu ideas, recipes, and mealtime discussion prompts.

Tune into Table Talk for the latest information!
Thursday, October 19 • 1:30 PM



[Sign Up for SNA Newsletters](#)

[Sign Up for SNA SmartBrief](#)

[Upcoming Meetings & Events](#)

[School Nutrition magazine](#)

[The Journal of Child Nutrition & Management](#)

[The Learning Center](#)

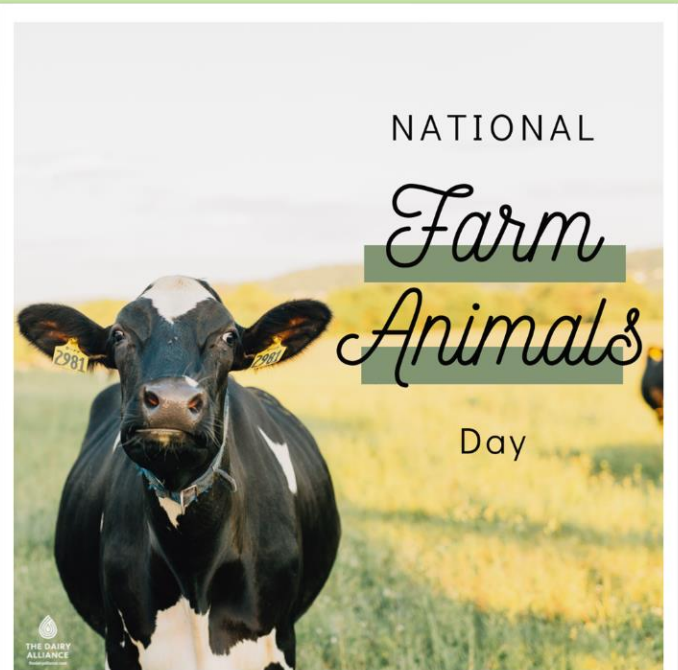


DID YOU KNOW?

Milk provides 13 essential nutrients like B-vitamins for energy, bone-building calcium and vitamin D.

We work with schools, health professionals, farmers & the public to provide nutritional information, research & recipes for a healthy lifestyle.

The non-profit Southeast United Dairy Industry Association, Inc. (SUDIA) is funded by dairy farm families of the Southeast and works with schools, health professionals, retailers, dairy processors and the public to promote dairy foods throughout Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.



Jana Miller, RDN
Manager and Trainer of Youth Wellness
thedairyalliance.com
[Find us on Facebook](#) [Follow us on Twitter](#)

HAPPY WORLD SCHOOL MILK DAY!



Leeds Elementary School
World School Milk Day



Leeds Middle Staff



Leeds Primary Staff



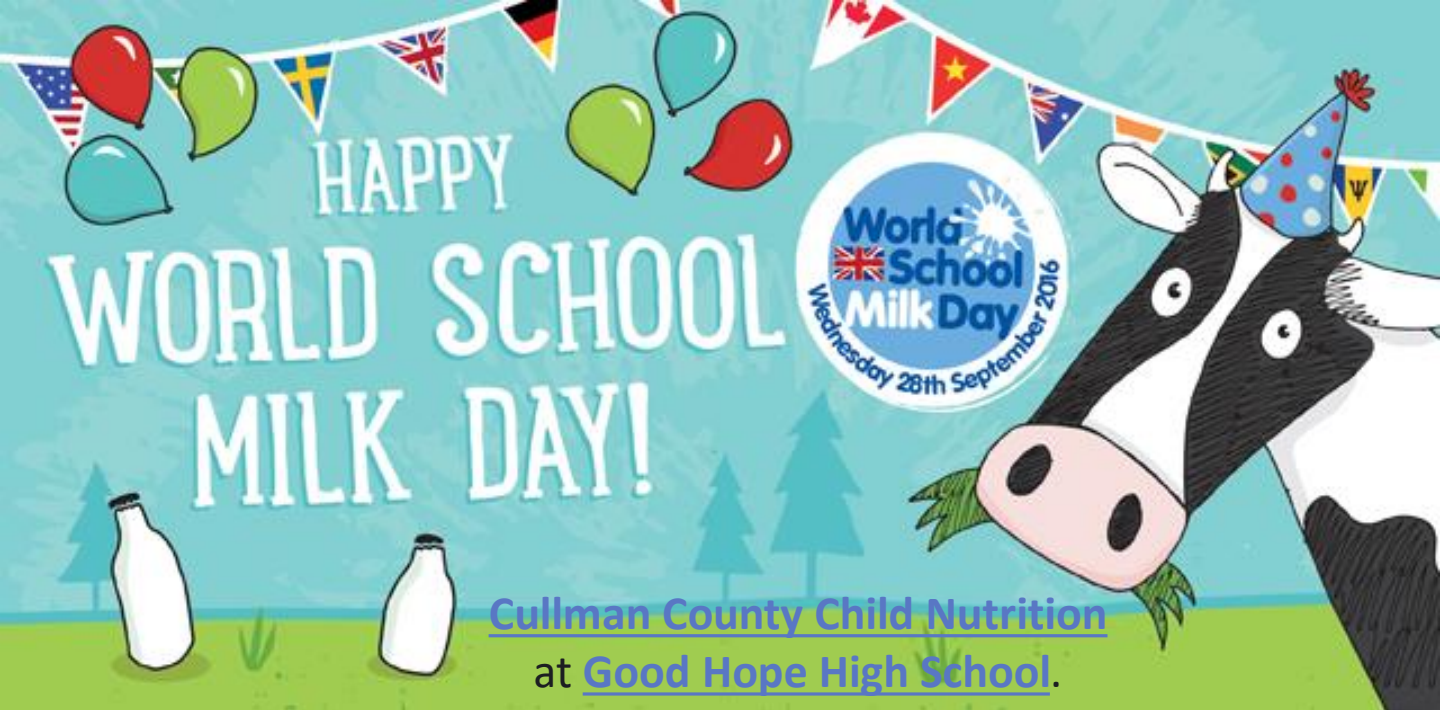
Michelle Kelly
Leeds High Manager



Leeds HS Staff



Theresa Liles
Leeds Middle School Manager



Cullman County Child Nutrition
at Good Hope High School.



WORLD SCHOOL MILK DAY



Cullman County CNP



Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs

Manual and Technology Based Resources

The authoritative source of food yield information
for all Child Nutrition Programs.



The **Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs** (FBG) is the authoritative source of food yield information for all Child Nutrition Programs.

The FBG has information to help determine:

- The right quantity of the appropriate types of food to purchase
- The specific contribution each food makes toward the meal pattern requirements

The Food Buying Guide also includes:

- Program-specific information regarding the meal pattern requirements
- Helpful information related to food purchasing and utilizing food yield information
- Additional resources related to meal pattern requirements and menu planning

FNS Document #

791

Resource Type

Technical Assistance & Guidance

Resource materials

[Food Buying Guide Brochure](#) (527.04 KB)

Related Content

[Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs](#)

[Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs: Training Resources](#)

[School Breakfast Materials](#)

[School Lunch Materials](#)



<https://www.fns.usda.gov/>



SNA celebrates

HISPANIC

HERITAGE MONTH

Dear SNA Community,

As we enter **Hispanic Heritage Month** (September 15 - October 15), we take a moment to recognize and celebrate the profound contributions of Latinos to our society, to the school nutrition profession and to our association.

At the [School Nutrition Association](#) (SNA), we're committed to honoring diversity and promoting inclusion. Let's come together in the spirit of celebration, as we acknowledge the integral role Latinos play within our school nutrition community and the cultural richness that strengthens our shared journey.

Happy Hispanic Heritage Month!

Chris Derico
President
School Nutrition Association

Patricia Montague, FASAE, CAE
CEO
School Nutrition Association



ALOHA

2023 CNP Directors' Fall Conference

November 14 -17, 2023

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

FARM Tour

The **Farm to School** event includes the farm tour fieldtrip, a relaxing dinner and a Farm to School T-shirt.

sponsored by Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

CNP Directors' Conference

Thursday, November 16, 2023

General Session

BREAKOUT Sessions

Friday, November 17, 2023

General Session

IMPORTANT: Registration form and fee must be **received** by **September 25, 2023**.
Registration fees will not be collected at the conference.



The Southeast Region Jr. Chef Competition

More than \$100,000 in college scholarships were at stake when high school teams from Kentucky and six other southeastern states competed in the Junior Chef Competition finals at Sullivan University on Thursday, May 10.

Kate Duncan Smith DAR School came in **3rd place at the Southeast Region Jr. Chef Competition** in Kentucky! We are so proud of the girls and thankful for Family and Consumer Science teachers, Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Sterling!



Sullivan University



Alabama's **Junior Chef** COMPETITION Participants



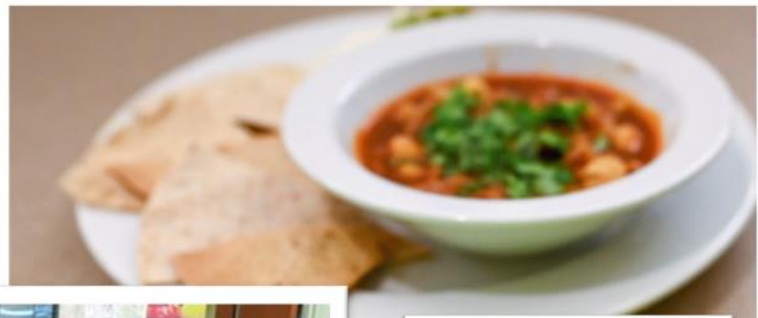
Alabama's
Junior Chef
Winners



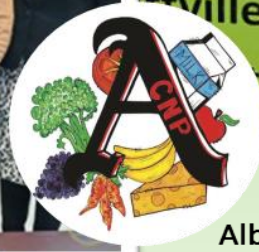
Patriot Chefs
Kate D Smith (DAR) High School
Marshall County



Alabama's Junior Chef Winners



Cooking Aggies
Albertville High School
Albertville City



Aggie Nutrition
Albertville City Schools
CNP



Wave Makers
Gulf Shores High School
Gulf Shores City



Gulf Shores
CITY SCHOOLS

Farm to School



Esther Hicks, ALSDE
Casey Partain, Marshall County CNP



Farm to School USDA Gathering in Atlanta

Esther and Casey did an outstanding job representing Alabama on the Jr. Chef Panel discussion in front of a crowd of FNS and SERO officials along with all the Farm to School grantees for 2023. We are very proud of the excellent presentations and their knowledge and understanding of Jr Chef and how important it is for the students and schools.





The Spoodle Report



Featured in the Spoodle Report was Tandy Blackwell, DHPE, RDN, SNS! **Tandy is the Coordinator of Child Nutrition in Athens, Alabama.** Tandy is who you want sitting next to you at the next CNP conference or meeting. She will get to know you and become your best CNP friend! Read more about her upbringing and what she brings to her role!

[Read More Here!](#)



School Nutrition Services

a dietetic practice group of the

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics



RDN SPOTLIGHT

Tandy Blackwell

DHPE, RDN, SNS



ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS



- Tandy and her daughter-in-law.
- Tandy Blackwell
- Tandy with her dad at a race.

Picking apart the school lunch

It's a part of everyday life for many children across the United States. It's also a complex tangle of policies and aspirations.

By Esri's StoryMaps team
September 13, 2023

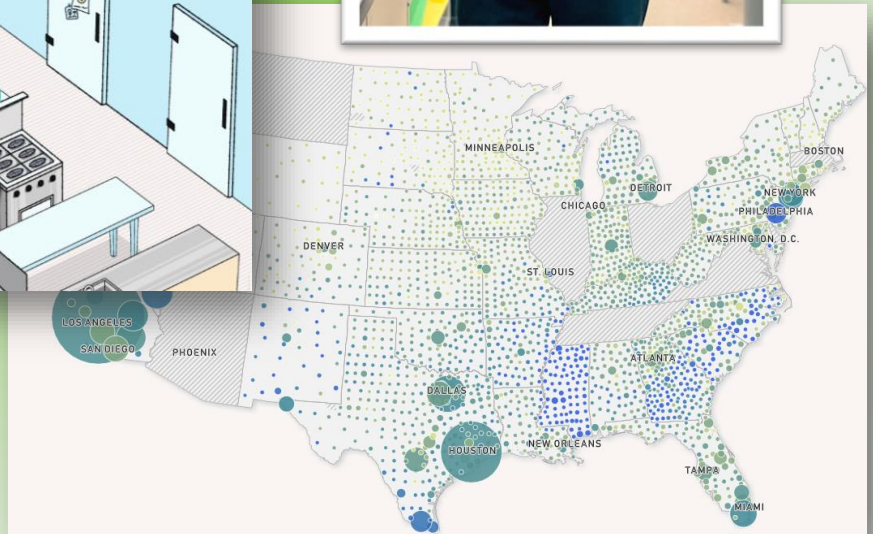
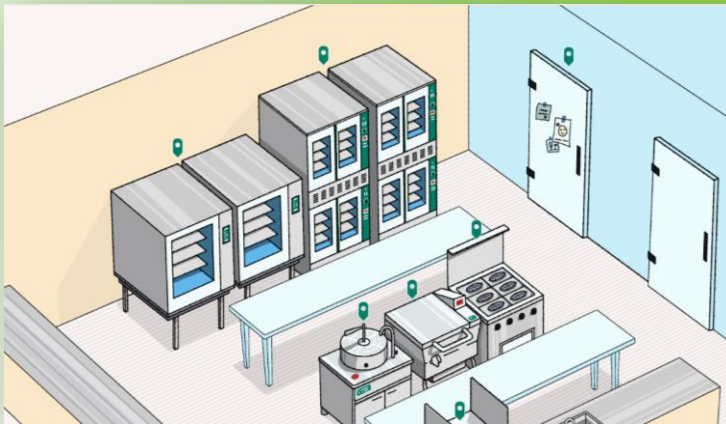
GREAT INFORMATION!

 Check out the [“Picking apart the school lunch” StoryMap!](#)

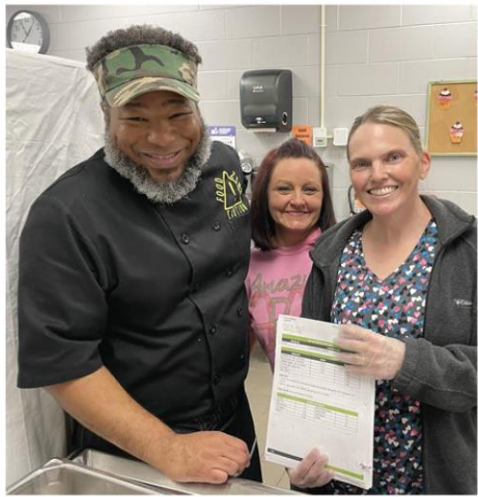
Dive into this [interactive piece](#), complete with engaging graphics and maps, designed to unravel the intricate web of policies and goals surrounding school meals. It presents the intricate world of school nutrition in a user-friendly, comprehensible format.

CLICK HERE

DID YOU KNOW?



Marshall County Child Nutrition Program



Alabama received a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant to provide training for school nutrition professionals. Marshall County staff participated in **"Beyond the Serving Line Training Academy"** to review food preparation techniques and recipe standardization. We can't wait to add fresh items to our menu to enhance the flavor of the food we serve.



Marshall County Schools Child Nutrition Program



CNP staff from Marshall County spent a day learning East Asian culinary flavors! [Institute of Child Nutrition](#) [Institute of Child Nutrition - University of MS](#)



Etowah County Schools Child Nutrition Program

Yummy!



Highland Elementary School is now offering Fun Boxes! These are charcuterie bistro boxes with lots of fun fruits, veggies, grains, proteins and tasty dips. Etowah County Schools



Check out the tasty grab-n-go lunches we served at West End High School



CALENDAR

ALABAMA

HARVEST

OF THE MONTH



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRIES



Sweet *Grown*
Alabama

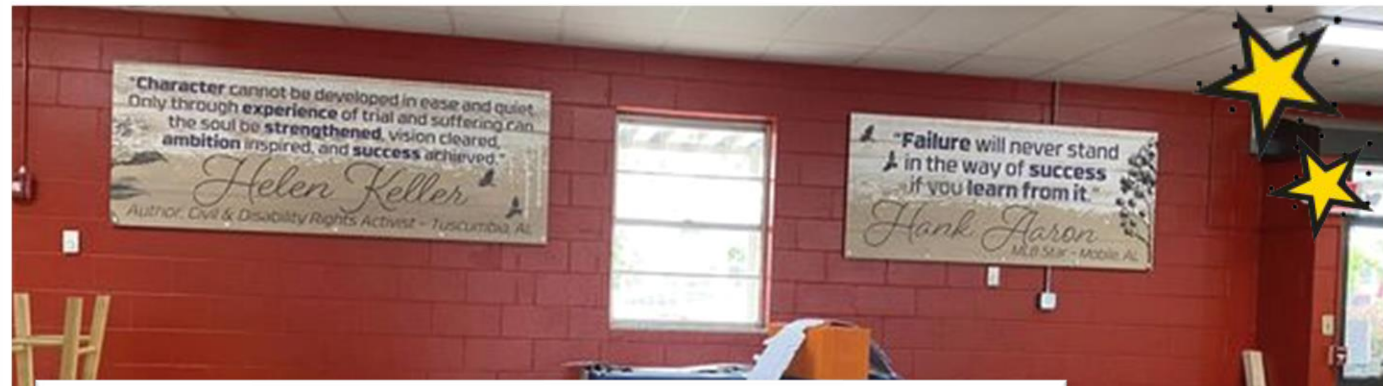
Child Nutrition Recipe Box

Your resource for **USDA Standardized Recipes** for Child Nutrition Programs



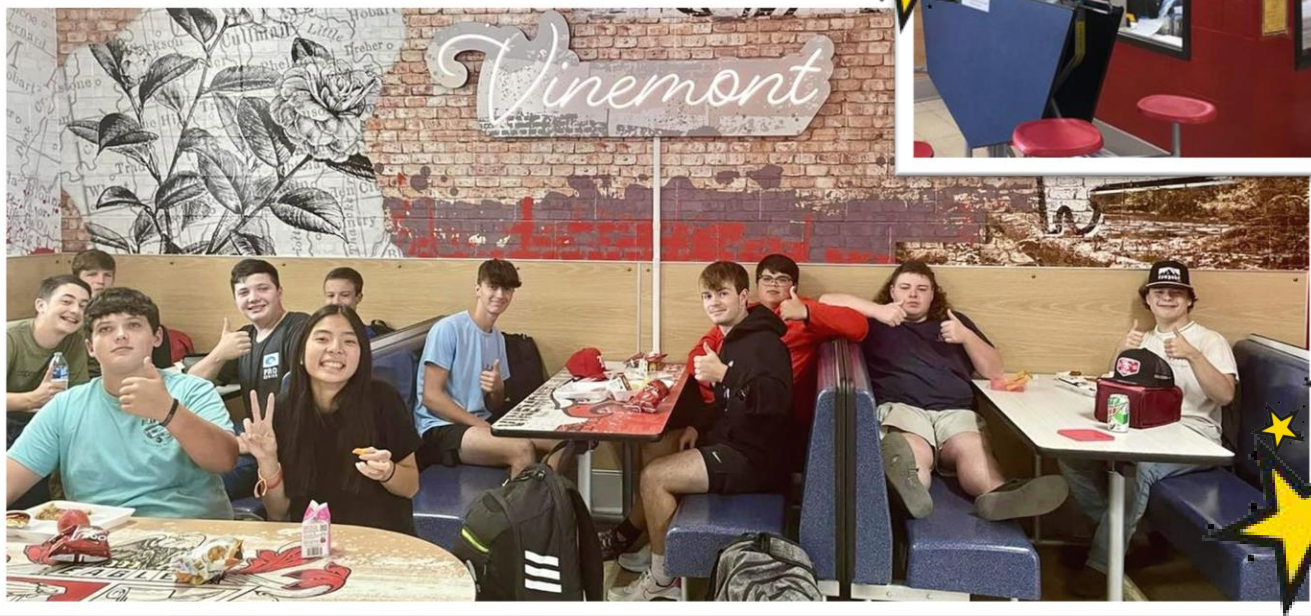
The Child Nutrition Recipe Box provides CNP operators with recipes:

- To prepare healthy and delicious meals that meet meal pattern requirements
- That are standardized to provide meal pattern crediting information for meal pattern components
- Made with legumes, whole grains, and vegetables from the vegetable subgroups: dark green, red, and orange vegetables



Cullman County Child Nutrition

Vinemont High's newly renovated lunchroom!
Looks Great!





Cleburne County School Nutrition's mobile feeding bus is up and running! 😊
The Magic Lunchbox was on the road and fed lots of children in the summer!



Happenings !

Dothan City Schools Child Nutrition Program

Students at Morris Slingluff Elementary School

enjoyed school-made chicken spaghetti, yeast rolls, fresh apples and yummy veggies.





October Hunter's Full Moon

[The Hunter's Moon is also known as the Full Hunter's Moon, which is inspired by Native Americans and their activities for getting ready for the winter²³.](#)

National School Lunch Week (NSLW) is celebrated annually in the United States during the second week of October. It was created by President John F. Kennedy in 1962 to promote the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child's life and the impact it has inside and outside of the classroom.

[This year's NSLW will be celebrated from October 9-13, 2023](#)

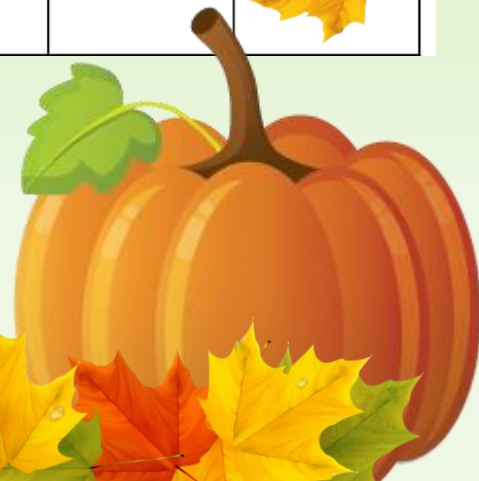
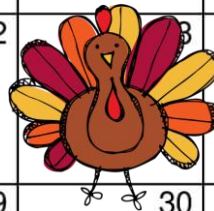




SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



**FALL 2023
CNP CONFERENCE**



USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation*), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

*This language was added pursuant to the May 5, 2022, USDA memorandum. However, the inclusion and applicability of this language is currently under challenge in the matter of *The State of Tennessee, et al. v. USDA, et al.*, Case No. 3:22-cv-00257, and may be subject to change.