



Alabama State Department of Education
Child Nutrition Programs

TABLE

VOLUME 004

ISSUE 004

October 25, 2024

TALK



BREAK for a PLATE
SCHOOLS

WEBEX RECORDING

[Click here to access the Webex recording.](#)

TABLE TALK

VOLUME 004 · ISSUE 004 · ALABAMA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

OVERVIEW





REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

CHIMERIA GIVHAN

TABLE TALK

VOLUME 004 · ISSUE 004 · ALABAMA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

Are you passionate about child nutrition policy and looking for support to attend [SNA's 2025 Legislative Action Conference](#) (LAC25) in Washington, DC?

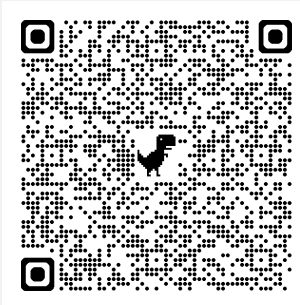
The [School Nutrition Foundation](#) (SNF) is offering scholarships to help SNA members offset the costs of attending LAC25, taking place March 9-11, 2025.

Fifteen scholarships ranging from \$1,000-\$3,000 will be awarded. Learn more about the [multiple scholarship options](#) for members through SNF below. 🙋

Josephine Martin National Policy Fellowship:

This prestigious fellowship honors Dr. Josephine Martin, a pioneer in child nutrition advocacy. One recipient will be awarded up to \$3,000 to attend LAC25 and be recognized at the conference.

Scan to apply for
the Fellowship→



The application deadline for all LAC scholarships is Friday, November 8.



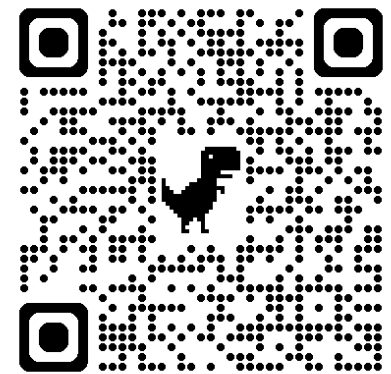
REVIEWS AND REMINDERS



Secure your spot for the
2025 School Nutrition Industry Conference (SNIC25)
January 19-21, 2025, in Phoenix, Arizona

♥ We invite you to join us for this incredible event where professionals from across the industry come together to build lasting connections, foster collaboration, and develop partnerships that drive success.

Scan the QR code to register!



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

Whole Grain Resource

for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs

LEARN MORE



Help students fuel their day with the goodness of whole grains! The Whole Grain Resource for The National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs has been revised to reflect the Final Rule, "Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans."

This resource provides important and comprehensive information on how to identify and offer foods that meet the whole grain-rich criteria for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and to assist in implementation of the meal pattern requirements for grains. Additionally, find example products commonly served in schools and understand if they credit as whole grain-rich, enriched, or are not creditable.

The updated Whole Grain Resource for the NSLP and SBPs is available to view and download in English and Spanish on the Team Nutrition page of fns.usda.gov website. Stay tuned for print copies of the resource!

Recurso de granos integrales

para el Programa Nacional de Almuerzo Escolar y el Programa de Desayuno Escolar

Apprende más



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

- RCCIs send license renewals to cnpnslp@alsde.edu.
- Put (Your Organization's name) License Renewal in the subject line.



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

2024 Fall New Directors' Training Workshop Presentations

Dear Directors,

Please find the presentations from the New Directors' Training linked below for your reference.

Program operators should direct any questions concerning this guidance to the School Programs staff at cnpslp@alsde.edu

WELCOME TO NEW DIRECTORS' TRAINING

NEW DIRECTORS' MENTORING PROGRAM

GENERAL INFORMATION

CNP ONLINE APPLICATION

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK

You've got mail!

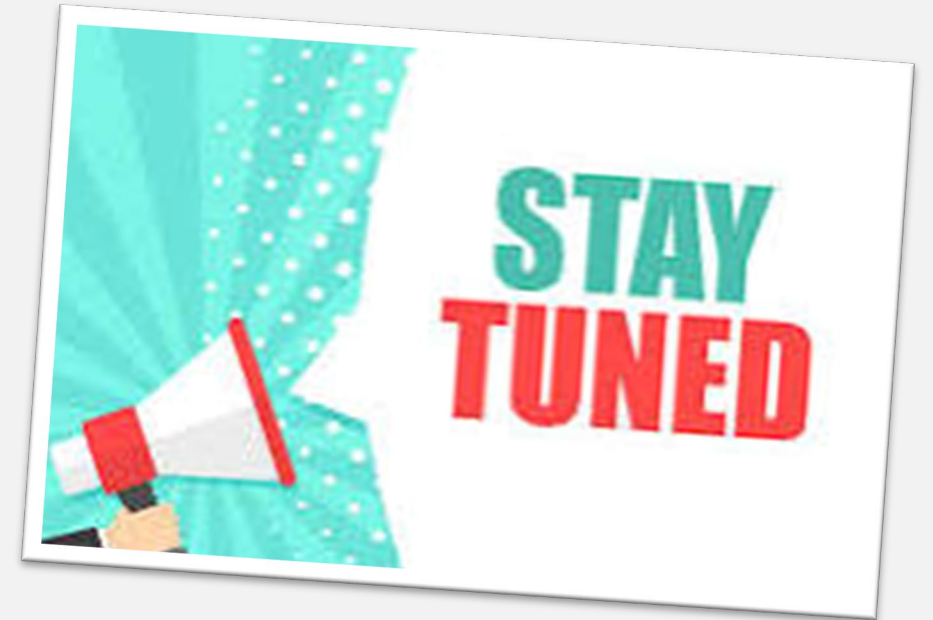
Presentations from New Directors' training were emailed via constant contact.



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

Be on the lookout for updated guidance on the following...

- Milk Disruptions & Emergency Procurement
- Unanticipated School Closures
- New Financial Manual
- Coffee in School Meals



National School Lunch Week 2024



TOP TOPICS CHIMERIA GIVHAN

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NSLW - Crenshaw County-Highland Home

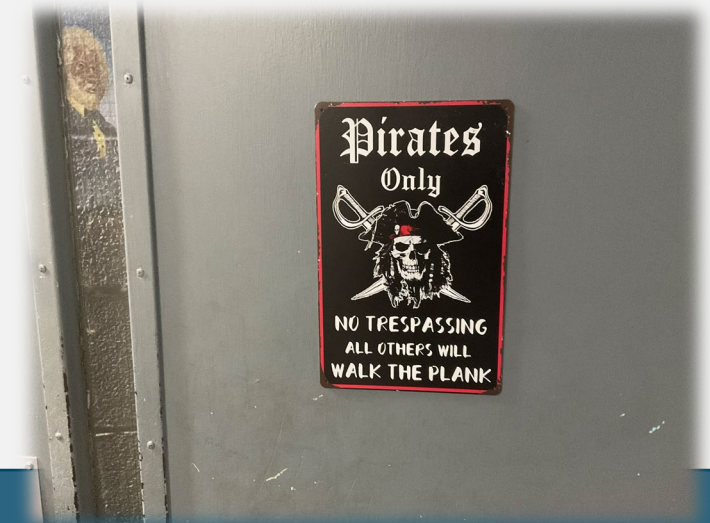


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NSLW - Legacy Prep Charter School



NSLW - Lawrence County-Speake Elementary



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NSLW - Elmore County-Airport Road Intermediate School



NSLW - Enterprise City-Holly Hill & Brookwood Elementary School



NSLW-Resurrection Catholic School

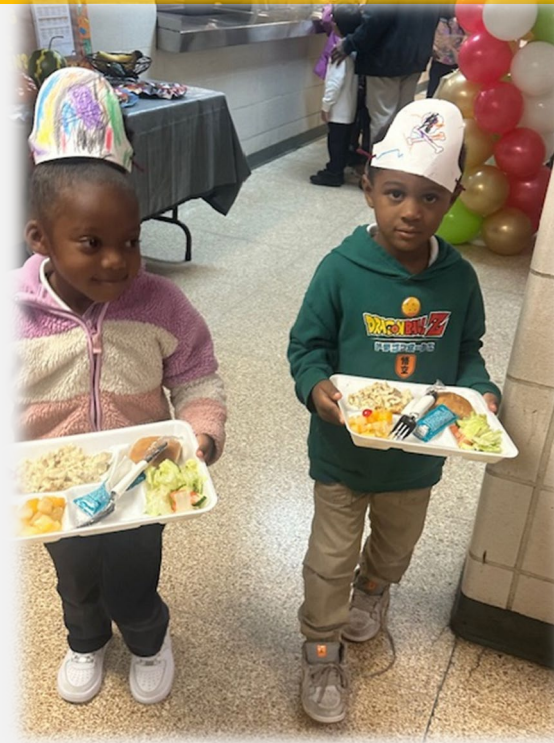


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MONTHLY MEMOS

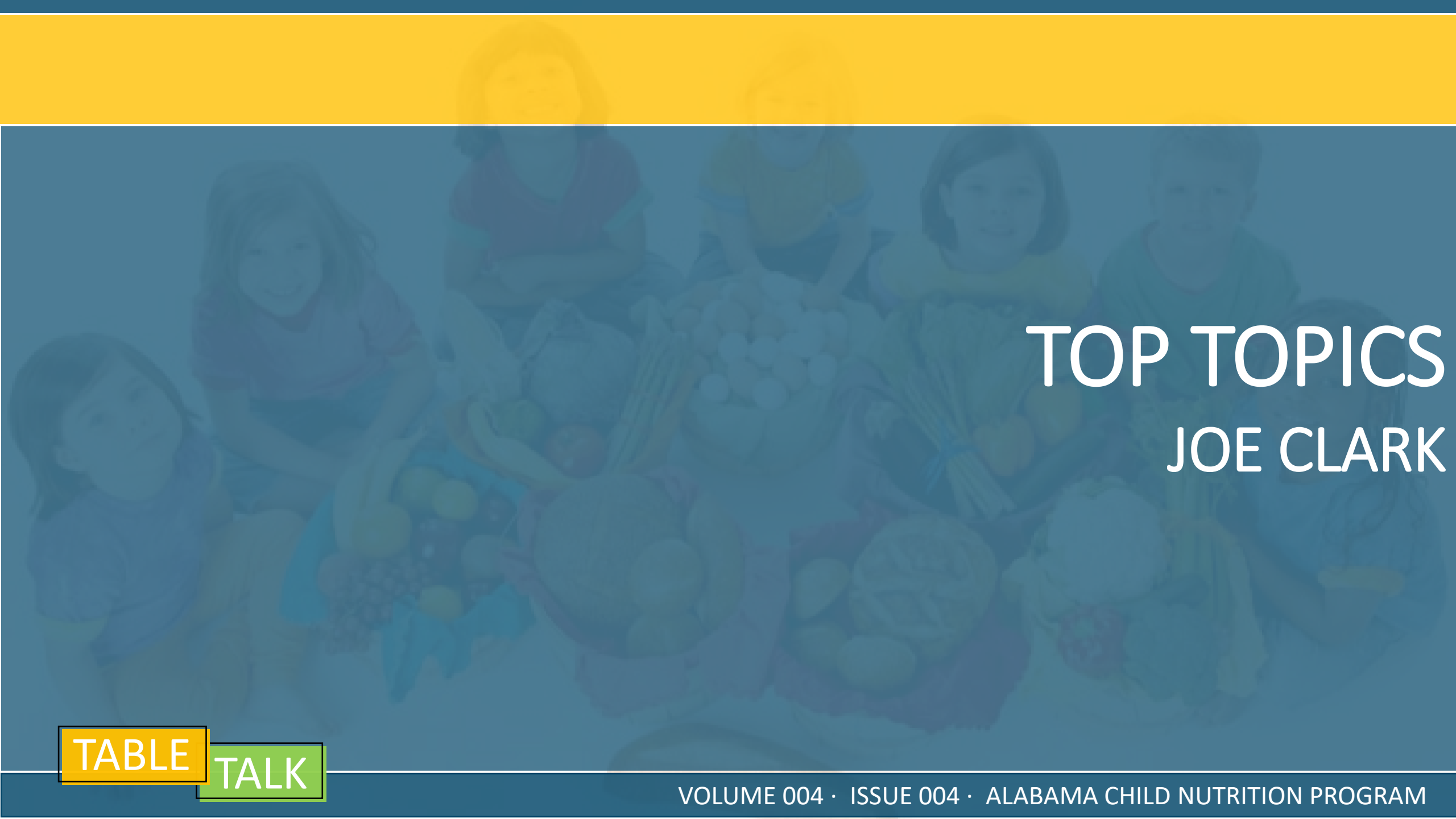
CHAD LANGSTON

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MONTHLY MEMOS

- **ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 10/2/24)**
 - **8th Annual Alabama State Junior Chef Competition**
- **ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 10/3/24)**
 - **School Year 2024-2025 Two Cent Differential and Severe Need Report**
- **ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 10/18/24)**
 - ****REMINDER** 2024 CNP Directors' Fall Conference**
- **ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 10/22/24)**
 - ***Important Information* - Annual CNP Financial Report**
- **ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 10/25/24)**
 - **Guidance for Milk Disruptions and Emergency Procurement**



TOP TOPICS

JOE CLARK

TABLE TALK

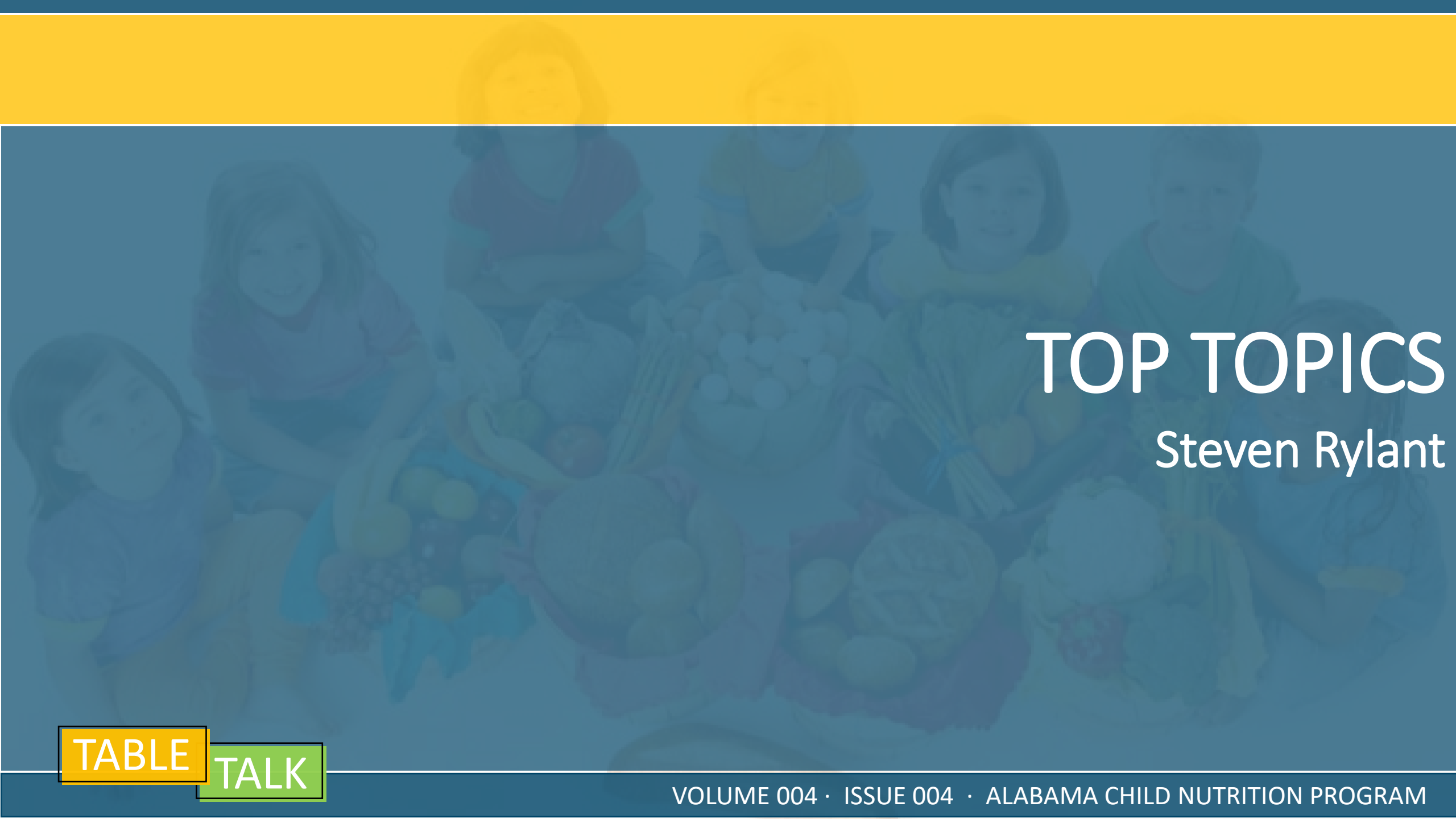
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FY24 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant

- Funds available are significantly lower this year
- FY23 \$523,774
- FY24 \$174,596
- Due to the decrease in funding, awards will be capped at \$40K
- Feel free to apply for items on your “wish list” but please, apply for those equipment purchases that you will **have** to make
- Please read the instructions and review the scoresheet included in the instructions

FY23 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant

- If you applied for the FY23 grant and did not receive an award but purchased the equipment, anyway, contact me via email.
- There are some funds available but to possibly receive funds, the equipment must have already been bought, installed, and paid for.



TOP TOPICS

Steven Rylant

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CNP Annual Reports

New Financial Reporting Procedures for Fiscal Year 2024:

For fiscal year 2024 (October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024), the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) has implemented two new financial reporting procedures.

1. CNP Annual Report for LEAs (Public & Charter Schools)
2. CNP Annual Report for RCCIs and Private Schools

Important Deadline: Both reports will be distributed via DocuSign and are due by January 15th of each fiscal year. If corrective action is required, then the SFA must submit an adequate and complete approved plan by January 15th as well. Please note that the DocuSign will send a reminder once a week to complete it.

ALSDE highly encourages SFAs submitting corrective action plans to submit a draft copy via email to Mr. Steven Rylant at swrylant@alsde.edu and Mr. Joe Clark at jclark@alsde.edu for review prior to submitting them via DocuSign.

CNP Annual Reports

1. CNP Annual Report for LEAs (Public & Charter Schools):

- This new report has been introduced in compliance with the federal Final Integrity Rule and replaces the outdated financial profile. Notably, the report no longer includes Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) data, ensuring a more accurate representation of the LEA's National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), After School Snack Program (ASSP), and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) under fund source 5101.
- Unlike the previous financial profile report, this new format allows LEAs to assess their financial status in real time as they close out their Child Nutrition Program (CNP) accounts. As a result, the report can be completed prior to the district submitting its final LEA accounting closeout to the state agency.
- Additionally, the report will calculate the LEA's operating balance and require a corrective action plan if the balance exceeds the 3-month operating reserve limit.

2. CNP Annual Report for RCCIs and Private Schools:

- This new report has also been implemented in compliance with the federal Final Integrity Rule and replaces the previous CNP Annual Report. The updated report excludes data from the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), as required by federal regulations.
- It requests only the financial data necessary to comply with USDA federal requirements. Similar to the LEA report, it will calculate the operating balance and mandate a corrective action plan if the balance exceeds the 3-month limit.

School Lunch Reimbursement Rates

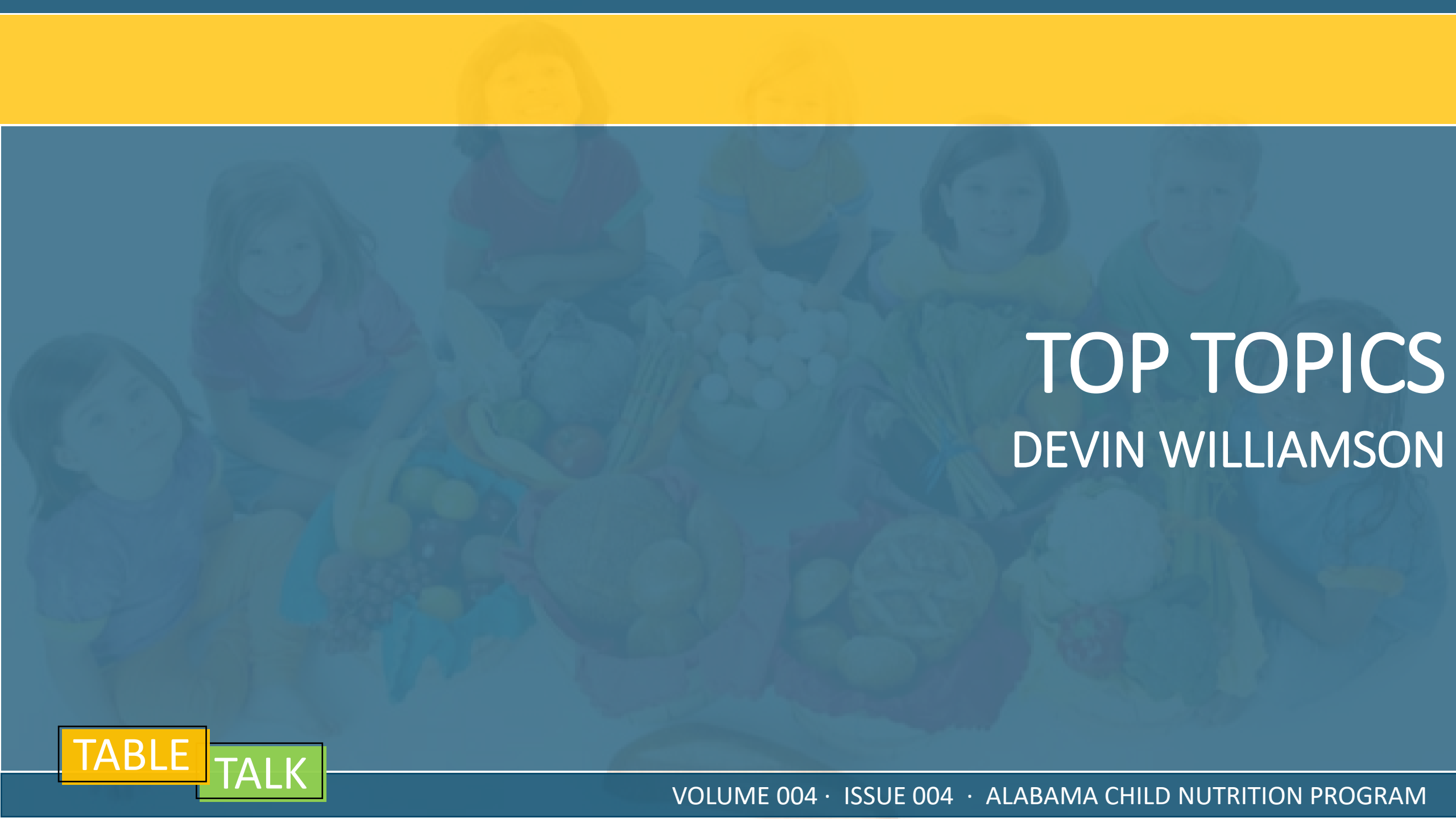
1. Please note that the current SY2024-2025 Federal Register mandates that School Food Authorities (SFA) budget the base reimbursement rate for free lunch meals (\$4.01) and reduced-price lunch meals (\$3.61) to 5110 (Section 11 school lunches). The Paid rate (\$0.42), Free/Reduced rate (\$0.42), or Free/Reduced Differential rate (\$0.44), and Performance-based reimbursement rate (\$0.09) per meal must be budgeted to 5120 (Section 4 school lunches). As a result, all Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are required to allocate funds to both 5110 and 5120 under the current federal guidelines.
2. This requirement is a federal regulation posted on the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) website [NSLP, SMP, SBP - National Average Payments/Maximum Reimbursement Rates | Food and Nutrition Service](#), not an Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) memorandum. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) publishes the annual reimbursement rates for Sections 4 and 11 school lunches each July, which means that coding requirements for 5120 (Section 4) and 5110 (Section 11) will vary annually.
3. We understand that this requirement may place an additional burden on SFAs in accurately forecasting budget allocations and recording monthly lunch revenues. To accommodate this, ALSDE will not apply disciplinary action during Administrative Reviews to SFAs that may miscode Section 4 reimbursements under revenue function code 5120 or Section 11 reimbursements under function code 5110, as long as the total school lunch reimbursement revenue for both codes equals the federal reimbursement amount provided to the SFA by ALSDE for FY 2024-2025.

School Lunch Reimbursement Rates

Outlined below is a simplified calculation for the reimbursement rates:

1. SFAs Serving Less Than 60% Free and Reduced-Price Lunches (**Regular Lunch**):
 - Revenue Function **Code 5120 (Section 4)** School Lunch Reimbursement:
 - Paid rate: $\$0.42 + \text{Performance-based rate: } \$0.09 = \$0.51$ per meal
 - Free rate: $\$0.42 + \text{Performance-based rate: } \$0.09 = \$0.51$ per meal
 - Reduced rate: $\$0.42 + \text{Performance-based rate: } \$0.09 = \$0.51$ per meal
 - Revenue Function **Code 5110 (Section 11)** School Lunch Reimbursement:
 - Free rate = \$4.01 per meal
 - Reduced rate = \$3.61 per meal
2. SFAs Serving 60% or More Free and Reduced-Price Lunches (**Safety Net/\$0.02 Differential**):
 - Revenue Function **Code 5120 (Section 4)** School Lunch Reimbursement:
 - Paid rate: $\$0.42 + \$0.02 \text{ Differential} + \text{Performance-based rate: } \$0.09 = \$0.53$ per meal
 - Free rate: $\$0.42 + \$0.02 \text{ Differential} + \text{Performance-based rate: } \$0.09 = \$0.53$ per meal
 - Reduced rate: $\$0.42 + \$0.02 \text{ Differential} + \text{Performance-based rate: } \$0.09 = \$0.53$ per meal
 - Revenue Function **Code 5110 (Section 11)** School Lunch Reimbursement:
 - Free rate = \$4.01 per meal
 - Reduced rate = \$3.61 per meal

TABLE TALK



TOP TOPICS

DEVIN WILLIAMSON

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Apply for USDA's Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Awards!

- [Application information](#)
- Need a state agency letter? Email devin.williamson@alsde.edu.
- Application deadline is June 30th, 2025

Upcoming Alabama Harvest of the Month

- November: Persimmons or Satsumas
- December: Sweet Potatoes or Butternut Squash
- January: Cabbage or Broccoli

Alabama Harvest of the Month Video Series:

- [Alabama's Harvest of the Month - YouTube](#)
- These videos can be shared to educate families and classrooms on Harvest of the Month items
- November's videos will be on persimmons



Alabama Team Nutrition Grant Video #2





TRAINING TIDBITS

ROBBIE SCOTT

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TRAINING TIDBITS

Training

DATE	TRAINING	LOCATION	AREA
November 20 – 22, 2024	Fall Directors' Conference	The Grand Hotel	Fairhope, AL

2024 CNP Directors' Fall Conference

Join us

Down on the Farm: A CNP Barnyard Bash!

Wednesday, November 20 through Friday November 22, 2024



Tuesday, November 19, 2024 - FARM Tour



Wednesday, November 20, 2024 – Alabama Farm to School Summit

Hotel Room Block and Conference Registration is now CLOSED.

Conference at a Glance!

Tuesday, November 19

FARM TO SCHOOL TOUR Sponsored by the Department of Agriculture and Industries

-----Departure 1:00PM from The Grand-----

Wednesday, November 20

8:45	Registration for Farmers' Summit	Grand Ballroom North
9:00 - 10:30	Hear from the Farmers	Grand Ballroom North
10:30 - 12:00	Farmer Meet and Greet	Grand Ballroom South
12:00 - 1:00 -	ALSDE CNP Director Conference Registration	Grand Ballroom North Foyer
1:00 - 4:30	Training Session	Grand Ballroom North

Thursday, November 21

8:00 - 9:00	Registration	Grand Ballroom North Foyer
9:00 - 11:45	Training Session	Grand Ballroom North
1:00 - 3:45	Breakout Sessions	Beachside Room • Azalea D-F
		Grand Ballroom North

Friday, November 22

8:00 - 9:00	Registration	Grand Ballroom North Foyer
9:00 - 12:00	Training Session	Grand Ballroom North



FARM TOUR

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1:00 p.m.

Cassebaum Produce Farm
A fourth-generation farm with diverse products that range from a variety of produce to cattle.

Mason Hills Farm
Mason Hills Farm produces a variety of meat products including beef, pork and chicken.

Then join us for a delicious **STEAK AND SHRIMP DINNER** at the Waters Edge, a fully functioning farm and event venue.

Registration is **\$55** and includes farm tours, dinner and limited edition tote.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: OCTOBER 18TH



CNP FALL DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE

November 20 - 22

Farm Tour Schedule:

12:30 - 12:55	BUS BOARDING
1:00 PM	BUS DEPARTS HOTEL
1:40 PM	ARRIVE AT CASSEBAUM FARM
2:40 PM	BUS DEPARTS FARM
4:10 PM	ARRIVE AT MASON HILLS FARM
5:40 PM	BUS DEPARTS FARM
6:40 PM	ARRIVE AT WATERS EDGE FOR DINNER
8:40 PM	BUS DEPARTS
9:00 PM	BUS ARRIVES AT HOTEL

Please Prepare

- WEAR CLOSED TOE SHOES
- BRING A JACKET IF YOU GET COLD
- CONSIDER SUNSCREEN AND/OR A HAT

Don't Forget:

- BOTH FARMS WE WILL BE GOING TO ARE WORKING FARMS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, I'M SURE THEY'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER THEM!





Alabama Farm to School Summit

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

Great Information from a panel of farmers, directors and a produce distributor.

Meet and Greet time with our amazing Alabama farmers!

Over 25 farms will be present for this event.

SPECIAL EVENTS to Crow About!

CNP FALL DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE

Dress up Day

Thursday, November 21st

Down on the Farm Dress up Day!

Grab your overalls and straw hats and be a part of the CNP farm-themed dress-up day!

You could also join us on the farm and dress up as your favorite farm animal.

Better still, why don't you dress up with your entire group of friends?



SPECIAL EVENTS to Crow About!

CNP FALL DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE
Barn Yard Bash
Thursday evening, November 21

Join us for

CNP's Barnyard Bash

Thursday, November 21

6:00 to 9:00 PM

Refreshments  Appetizers  Surprise Activity



Bonfire on the Beach with Smores!



Oink!

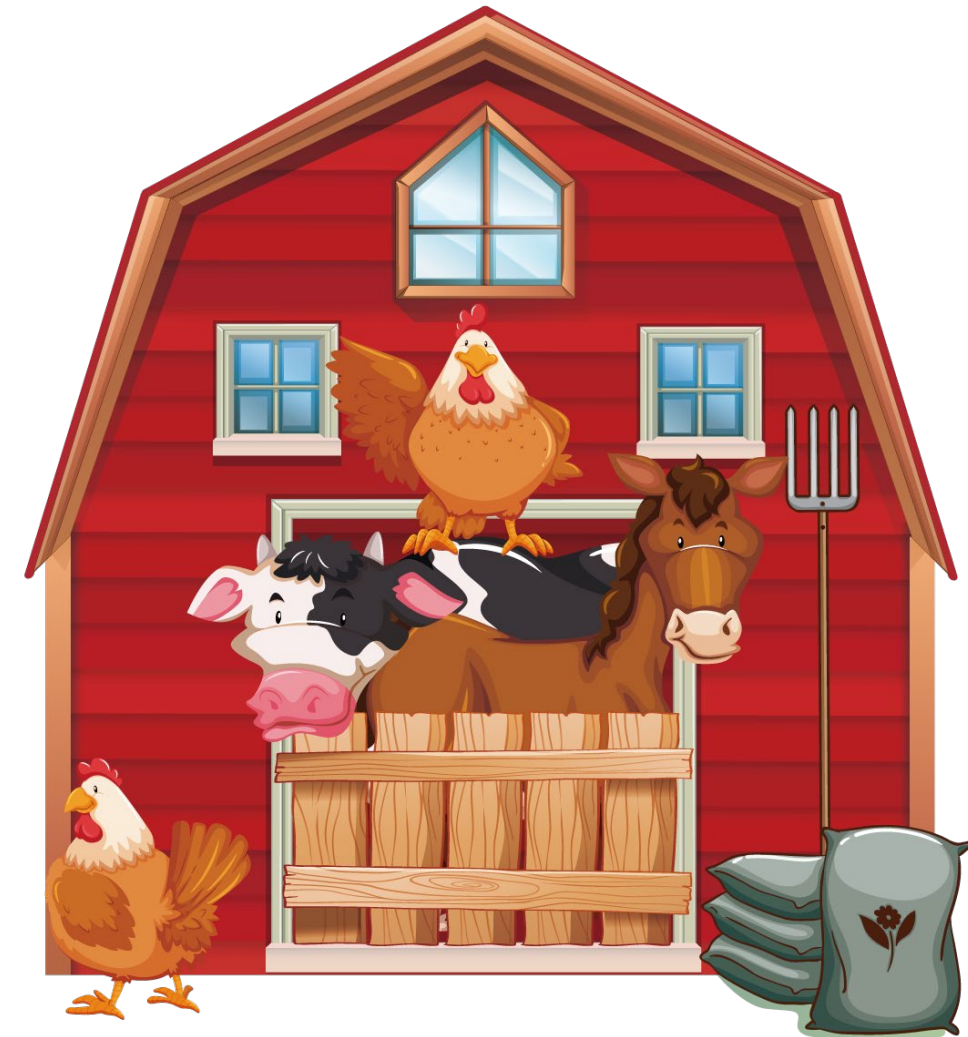


Moo!



Cock-a-doodle-doo!

Join us at the CNP bonfire and roast a marshmallow or two!





Bonfire on the Beach with Smores!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE INDUSTRY PARTNERS
FOR SPONSORING THIS EVENT!



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

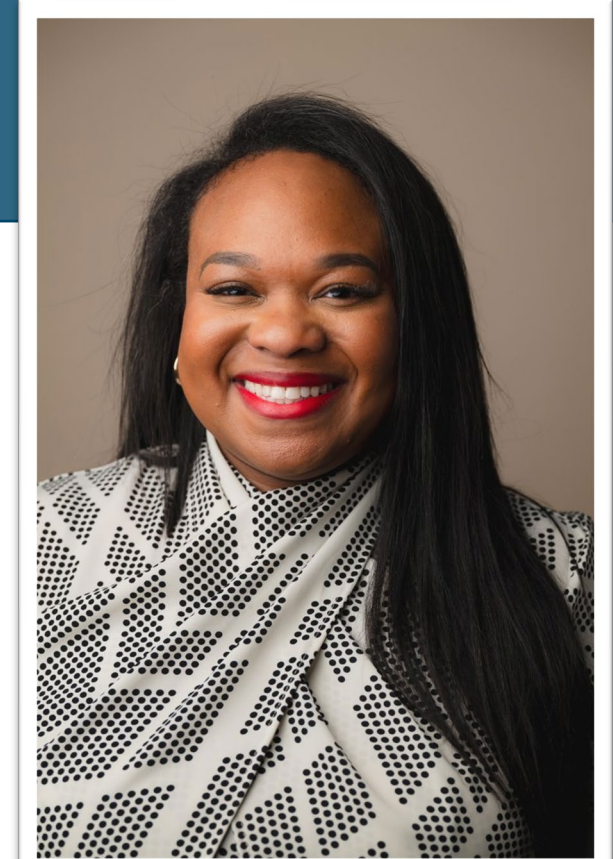
LORIA HUNTER

TABLE

TALK

Arnisha Jordan

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



Arnisha Jordan, CNP Director



RESTORATION
ACADEMY



ALABAMA
SCHOOL OF
FINE ARTS

Alabama School of Fine Arts and Restoration Academy Private School

Number of Employees : 9 Total (ASFA 6 – RA 3)

Years in Child Nutrition : 11 years

Favorite: My favorite part of being a School Nutrition professional is connecting the dots for people. Whether it's a parent needing help with accessing a particular resource or freeing a part of a school's budget for food so that funding can be reallocated toward academics. I like to think of myself as a conduit which helps needed Information and resources flow.

Least Favorite: My least favorite part of my role is seeing my team members feeling unappreciated and under valued, so I go out of my way to make sure they feel seen, supported, and valued.

Most Meaningful Thing: The most meaningful thing that I've witnessed as a School Nutrition professional was last year at the Fall Director's conference when so many directors shared encouraging words and notes with me. Occasionally, I reread those messages to get a boost of confidence. I am happy to report that I'm in my final term of grad school and on schedule to complete my program this December!

Best Advice: I would advise new directors to learn all they can about School Nutrition, ask questions (even if those questions seem stupid), and give themselves grace.

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, audiotape, 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: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, 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; or**

2.fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3.email:

Program.Intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Thank you for attending!

Be sure to document your attendance
by completing the survey.

Scan the QR code

<https://forms.office.com/r/kXCphPSbF1?origin=lprLink>





Ask Us