



TABLE

TALK



Alabama State Department of Education
Child Nutrition Programs

VOLUME 004
ISSUE 007
March 27, 2025

Webex Recording

[Please click here to access the Webex Recording.](#)

OVERVIEW



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

ROBBIE SCOTT

TABLE TALK

VOLUME 004 · ISSUE 007 · ALABAMA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

Final Review Reminder After School Snack Program (ASSP)

- All ASSPs must have one final review prior to the end of the program.
- Forms are available on Alabama Achieves website:

<https://www.alabamaachieves.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/After-School-Snack-Program-Onsite-Review-Form.pdf>

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The image shows two overlapping copies of a form titled "Alabama Department of Education Child Nutrition Program After School Snack Program On-Site School Review for LEAs". The form includes fields for "Site Name", "Reviewer's Name", and "Date". It also contains instructions: "This review form must be completed twice per school year for each after school snack program site. The first review must be conducted within the first 4 weeks of program initiation." There are checkboxes for "First Review" and "Second Review". The form is divided into two main sections: "Area Eligible School" and "Non-Area Eligible School". Each section has a table with columns for "YES" and "NO" and rows for various criteria: 1. Area Eligibility Data (based on most recent October), 2. Meal Counts (total by site), 3. Attendance Records, 4. Production Records, 5. Meal Pattern Compliance, 6. Is reimbursement claimed for only one snack per student per day?, 7. Does the meal count for the Day of Review follow the pattern for the previous 10 days?, 8. Are educational activities provided? The "Area Eligible School" section has a "YES" column, while the "Non-Area Eligible School" section has a "NO" column.

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS



Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Outreach

- All SFAs must provide information to their participants for summer feeding sites.
- Even if you are not providing summer meals, information as to where students may get a meal must be provided.
- Information should include dates, times and location(s) for summer feeding sites

Opening and Closing of Schools

- | STATE DEPARTMENT USE ONLY: | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Site Type: | Agency Type: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Description of New Site/Reconfiguration | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | New School site is built with no moving and splitting of old school sites | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of new school: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | New School site built with no moving and splitting of old school sites. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of original school: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | A new school site will inherit original school name: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of original school: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | The original school name moves with grades to the new school: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of original school: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | The old school site will keep its name: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of new school: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | The old school site and new school site will both have new names: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of original school: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of new school: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | The old school site will close and will no longer be used: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of school(s) receiving students: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | The school(s) is/are changing the current grade configuration: | | | | | | | | | | |
| School 1 Name | | | | | | | | | | | |
| School 2 Name | | | | | | | | | | | |
| School 3 Name | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Add additional lines as needed | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | Other Situation not identified above | | | | | | | | | | |
| Description: | | | | | | | | | | | |



MONTHLY MEMOS

CHAD LANGSTON

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MONTHLY MEMOS

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 2/28/25)

- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/3/25)

- Alabama's Farm to School Culinary Challenge Workshop

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/5/25)

- SP 10-2025: Rescission of Guidance on Promoting Access to Voting through the Child Nutrition Programs

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/5/25)

- Reminder: Comment Period Closes March 26 for Request for Information: Grain-Based Desserts and High-Protein Yogurt Crediting in Child Nutrition Programs

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/6/25)

- Reminder: Alabama's Farm to School Culinary Challenge Workshop

MONTHLY MEMOS

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/6/25)

- Reminder: Comment Period Closes March 24 for Request for Information: Child Nutrition Programs Tribal Pilot Projects

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/12/25)

- CNP School Programs Emergency Contact Update

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/14/25)

- ***DEADLINE APPROACHING 4/1/2025*** Private Schools Identified Student Percentage Data Collection for SY24-25

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/14/25)

- Reminder: Severe Weather Preparedness & Unexpected School Closure Guide

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/18/25)

- National School Breakfast Week 2025 Recap!

MONTHLY MEMOS

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/20/25)

- ****Important Update: New FFVP Application Link****

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 3/21/25)

- Invitation to Farmer Meet and Greet at the ASNA Conference



TOP TOPICS

SUSANNE REEVES

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BUY AMERICAN

The non-domestic food purchase cap will be 10% beginning School Year 2025-2026, 8% beginning School Year 2028-2029 and 5% beginning School Year 2031-2032

There are two limited exceptions for non-domestic purchases

- The product is listed on the *Federal Acquisitions Regulations Nonavailable articles* list found at 48 code of federal regulations (CFR), Section 25, 104 and/or is not produced or manufactured in the U.S. in sufficient and reasonably available quantities of a satisfactory quality
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-48/chapter-1/subchapter-D/part-25/subpart-25/section-25.104>
- Competitive bids reveal the costs of a domestic product are significantly higher than the non-domestic product

NOTE: All Sponsors will be required to track all non-domestic food purchases beginning School Year 2025-2026. This includes items that meet the limited exception rule. Sponsors are required to request an accommodation if the 10 percent threshold cannot be met.

More information to come at Spring Conference

To prepare:

- Ensure Buy American is included in all procurement solicitations, bid specifications and contracts - ex. include country of origin on invoices, procedures for contact when a non-domestic product will be substituted...etc.
- Before using an exception consider a domestic alternative.
- Plan menus to utilize domestic products when possible.
- Provide staff training about the Buy American provision. Example: Reviewing country of origin on food packaging and invoices, food products align with the terms and conditions of the contract...etc.
- Periodically review storage areas to ensure products received are what was solicited and awarded and comply with the Buy American provision.



TOP TOPICS

DEVIN WILLIAMSON

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Added Sugars Phase 1:

Product-based Sugar Limits to begin July 1st, 2025

- **Breakfast Cereals:** no more than 6 grams of added sugars per dry ounce
- **Yogurt:** no more than 12 grams of added sugars per 6 ounces
- **Flavored Milk:** no more than 10 grams of added sugars per 8 ounces, or 15 grams per 12 ounces (if sold a la carte)



Madagascar Vanilla
& Cinnamon

5.3
oz

Nutrition Facts Serv. size: **1 Container (150g)**,
Amount per serving: **Calories 120**, **Total Fat** 3g (4% DV), Sat. Fat 1.5g (8% DV), *Trans Fat* 0g, **Cholest.** 15mg (5% DV), **Sodium** 55mg (2% DV), **Total Carb.** 10g (4% DV), Fiber 0g (0% DV), Total Sugars 9g (Incl. 5g Added Sugars, 10% DV), **Protein** 12g (24% DV), Vit. D (0% DV), Calcium (10% DV), Iron (0% DV), Potas. (4% DV).

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program: Application is open for SY 25-26.

The goals of the FFVP are to:

- **introduce** children to fresh fruits and vegetables
- **expose** children to a variety of fruits and vegetables during the school day
- **increase** overall acceptance and consumption of fresh, unprocessed produce among children
- **establish** healthful eating habits, and ultimately decrease childhood obesity rates

FFVP Benefits:

- Teaching children **healthful eating habits** may help promote a healthy school environment
- It's a **creative and effective way** to improve the student's overall health and wellbeing



FFVP Applications are out now!

- Use the Docusign link in the email from the ALSDE on 3/20/25.
- If you have principals or managers that are interested in learning more, pass along the 10-minute informational video embedded in the email.
- Deadline to apply is May 16th, 2025.
- Contact Devin Williamson at 334-694-0834 or devin.williamson@alsde.edu for more information.

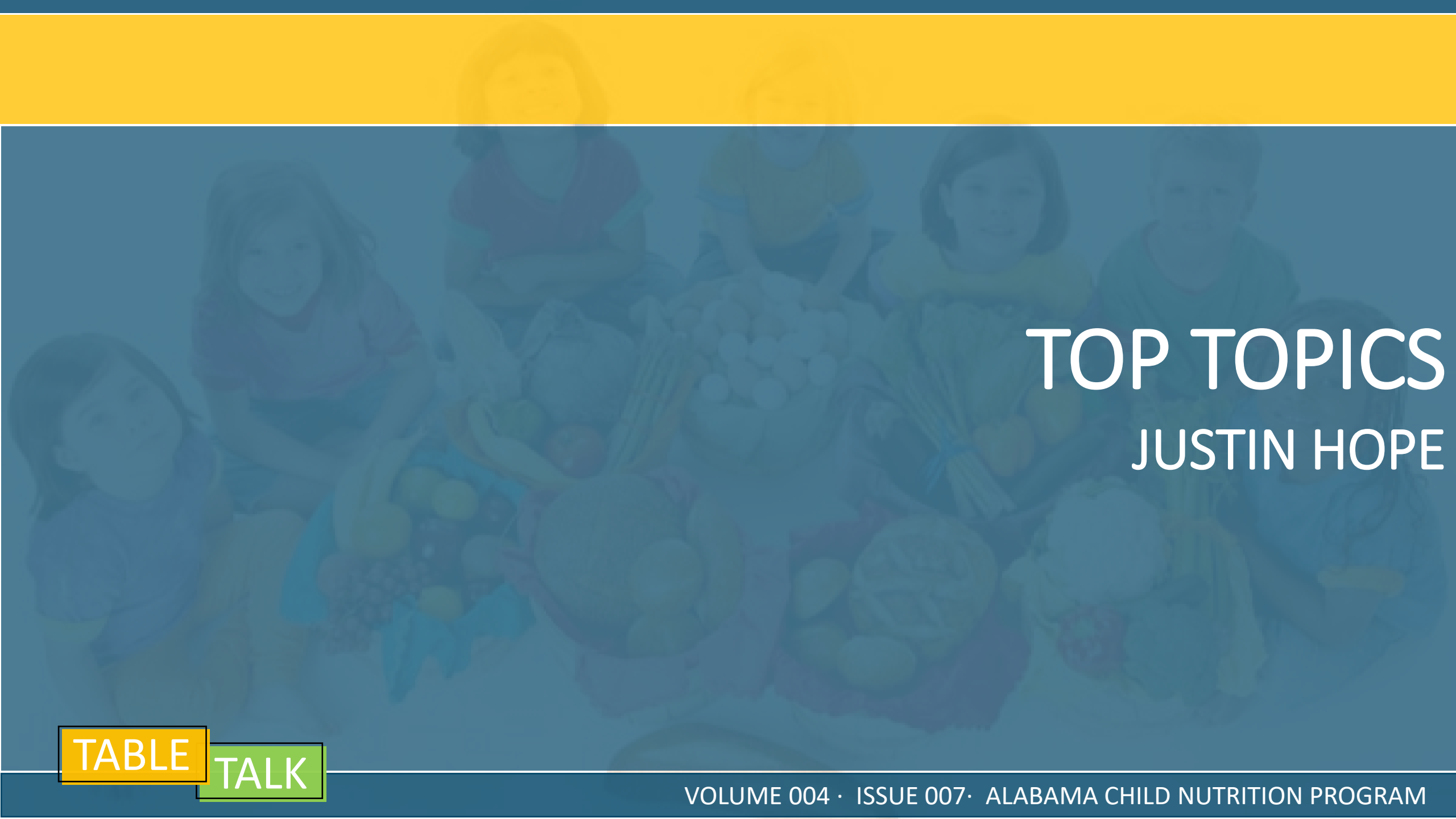


Saturday, May 3rd

7:00-8:45 Rise & Dine Breakfast Buffet:
A Galactic Meet & Greet with Alabama
Farmers- the Food Innovators of Tomorrow

Know of a farmer that would like to attend?
Send them an invitation! Registration link
email (3/21/25).





TOP TOPICS

JUSTIN HOPE

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LINQ

SCHOOL NUTRITION SUITE

TABLE TALK

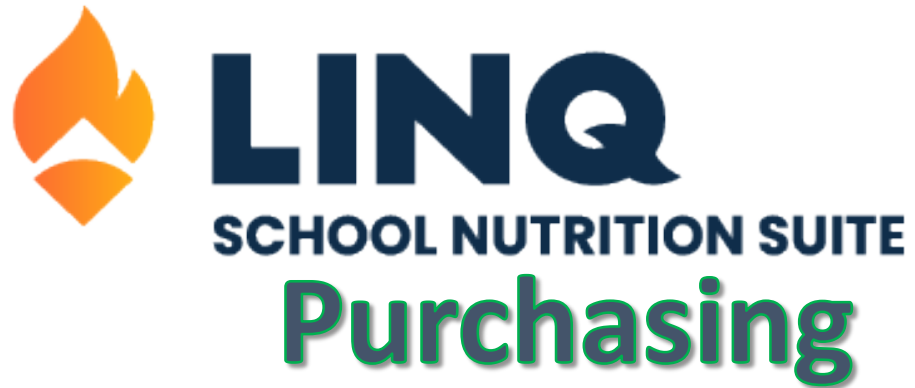
Back of House Dashboard & Purchasing
portal.schoolnutrition.linq.com

Point of Sale
pos.schoolnutrition.linq.com

LINQ
SCHOOL NUTRITION

[Forgot password?](#)

Next



Product Mapping

TABLE TALK



ALSDE SWP/LINQ – Warehouse Mapping

Warehouse Mapping

The process of configuring items to be used by different buildings and ordered from different entities is called Warehouse Mapping. This process provides districts functionality to meet varying levels of complexity in their ordering. Because of this needed flexibility for different users, there is no process for the mapping to be “pushed down” from the top and must be maintained by the individual district. If you discover an item that is not available for purchasing on orders, the Warehouse Mapping is the most likely reason.

Maintaining Warehouse Mapping

When starting in LINQ for statewide purchasing, the Warehouse Mapping for all your items will have been setup to your needs during the initial call. However, there are two circumstances when the Warehouse Mapping will need to be added/updated in the future:

1. New Items are added
2. The Purchasing Unit for an item [changes](#).

When either of these two things happen, you should get information via email from Statewide Procurement Specialist, Andrew Morton notifying you of a new item or a change in the purchasing unit size of an existing item.

When a purchasing unit size changes or an item is replaced, Item Numbers will be relabeled in the LINQ Nutrition Purchasing Dashboard with an (x) added behind the region number of the original item. For Example-

Identifier	Name
10611-1.5.6	Boneless Chicken Breast Fillet, Fully Cooked, WG
10611-1.5.6x	Homesyle Boneless Chicken Breast Fillet, Fully cooked WG

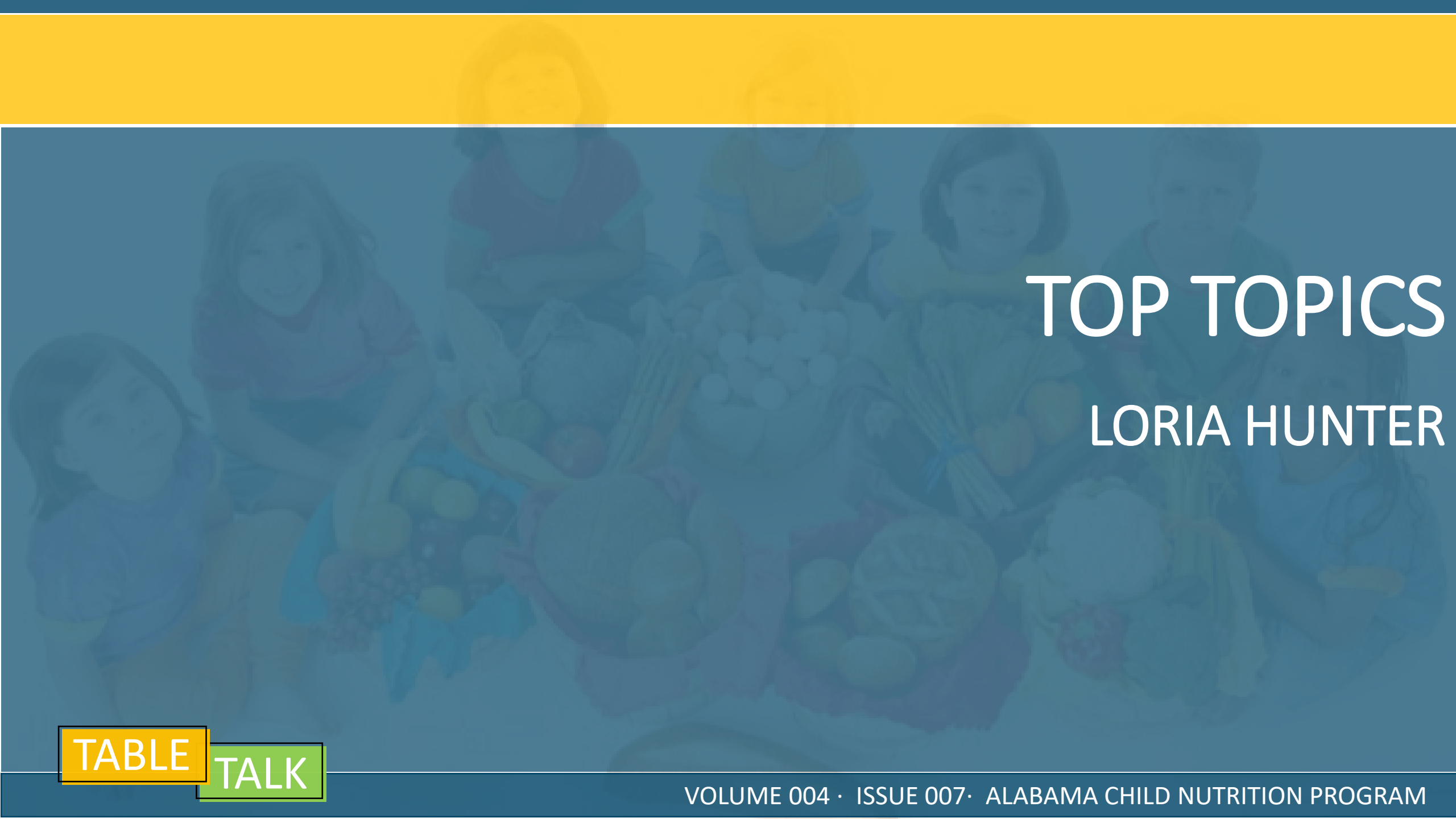
This identifies an item that has been replaced with another item with the same SWP ID. This will allow the item to remain in your inventory or placed on a [menu](#), but will not allow the item with the (x) to be purchased.

How to Use Warehouse Mapping

When alerted to a new item needing attention:

1. Go to: **Items > Item Management**
2. Search for item by number provided
3. Click the **Pencil** icon to open the item
4. Click on the red **Item Rights and Measures** tab to the left
5. For new items:
 - a. Click **+New Warehouse** on the right
 - b. **Building Group** = All*
 - c. Choose **Allow Orders From** = choose the only option
6. For items with a new Purchase Unit
 - a. Click the **Pencil** icon of the current item under Warehouses
 - b. Leave **Building Group** as is
 - c. Choose **Allow Orders From** = option in DARK GRAY – there may be others in light gray
7. Click **Save**

* Building Groups can be used to restrict items from different types of schools. Multiple mappings to different groups are allowed.



TOP TOPICS

LORIA HUNTER

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Traditional Congregate Meal Service

- SFSP
- SSO



Rural Non-Congregate

- Parent/Guardian Pick-Up
- Home Delivery
- Mobile Route Distribution



Alabama Sun Bucks Summer 2025



SY 24-25 Reimbursement Rates (Includes 2 cent differential, performance-based, and severe need reimbursement)

	Breakfast	Lunch or Supper
Free	2.84	4.54

2025 SFSP Reimbursement Rates (Combined Administrative and Operating)

	Breakfast	Lunch or Supper
Rural or Self-Prep	3.0875	5.4025
All other sites	3.0300	5.3150

SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

SUMMER 2025

- **SFSP**

Training – breakforaplate.com

LINQ Application – training presentation and user manual breakforaplate.com

- **SSO use old online application**

Open restricted – explanation in sponsor comment section

All site types – describe meal counting process in sponsor comment section



SFSP@ALSDE.EDU

A screenshot of a web application form. It includes sections for "11. Offer vs. Served" with checkboxes for "OVS for Breakfast" and "OVS for Lunch", "12. Explanation of meal service for non-congregate or both must be provided in the Comment section along with comments for menu, bulk delivery or other meal service methods, food safety and accountability.", and "13. Override Non-Congregate Meal for Non-Rural Site." with a checkbox and a text area. Below these is a "Comments" section with a red circle around the "Comments" label and a text input field. At the bottom right is a "Save" button.

SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

SUMMER 2025

- Expand Rural Non-Congregate Meals
 - Self Prep Sponsors Only
 - Unitized or Bulk Meals
 - Webinar Friday, March 28 @1:00 pm will be recorded
- No Kid Hungry Grant – QR Code
- Increase Program Integrity
 - LINQ Cartwheel Meal Counter
 - Phasing out paper tally sheets



SFSP@ALSDE.EDU



SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR KIDS SUMMER 2025

Alabama Sun Bucks – Outreach

- SFAs

Vendor provided promotional materials

Basic information for program access and eligibility

- Eligible Children

-Students on DC file ~~Exception:—extended eligibility—~~ students

Including extended eligibility

-F/R eligible students based on NSLP school meal apps

REMINDER: SEBT **not** PEBT





Staff



Tiffany Bedgood
tiffany.bedgood@alsde.edu

Ben Guthrie
benjamin.guthrie@alsde.edu



LaKecia Love
llove@alsde.edu



Loria Hunter
loria.hunter@alsde.edu

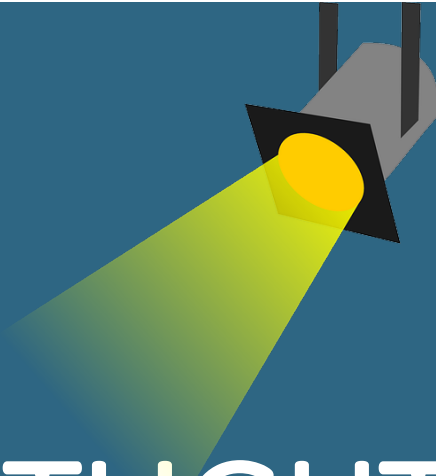
TRAINING TIDBITS

ROBBIE SCOTT



TRAINING TIDBITS

EVENT	DATE	TRAINING	LOCATION	AREA
Alabama School Nutrition Association Conference 2025	May 1 – 2, 2025	ALSDE	Von Braun Center	Huntsville, AL
	May 2 – 3, 2025	ASNA		
NEW MANAGERS TRAINING	June 25 – 26, 2025	New Managers	Shelby County Instructional Services Center	Alabaster, AL
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TRAINING	August 12 – 13, 2025	AR Training	Gordon Persons Building Auditorium	Montgomery, AL
NEW DIRECTORS TRAINING	August 18 – 22, 2025	New Directors	Gordon Persons Building Zeke	Montgomery, AL
FALL CONFERENCE	November 12 – 14, 2025	Fall Conference	The Grand Hotel Resort and Conference Center	Point Clear, AL



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

DEVIN WILLIAMSON

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Sponsor Spotlight

Shirley Stewart



Number of Sites: 3
Number of Employees: 9
Years in Child Nutrition: 2.5

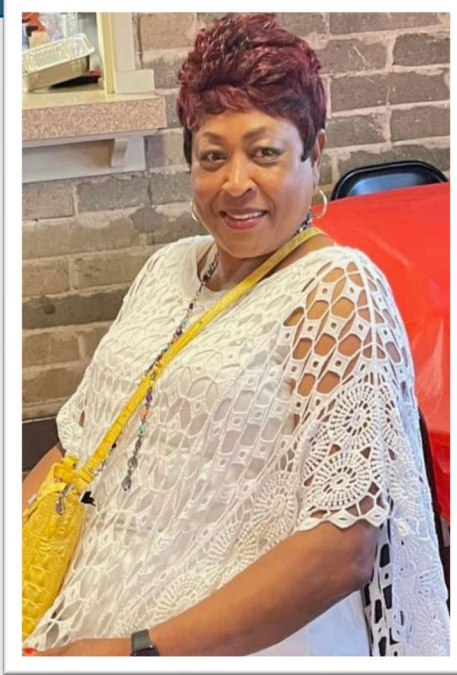


Favorite part of the job? The honor and pleasure of working with a group of dedicated ladies that are committed to the same goal; serving our wonderful scholars with healthy and nutritious foods that will enable them to be ready for a productive school day and a successful year.

Least favorite part of the job? Difficulty encouraging some of the students to try new food items.

Most meaningful part of the job? Being a CEP school district, which reduces barriers to participation.

Best advice for new directors? Never be afraid to ask questions and always network!



Shirley Stewart

CNP Director
Greene County

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

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Thank you for attending!

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Ask Us