



TABLE

TALK



Alabama State Department of Education
Child Nutrition Programs

VOLUME 005
ISSUE 008
JUNE 25, 2026

WEBEX RECORDING

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

OVERVIEW

- Public Release
- Triennial Assessments
- Smart Snack Attestation and Exempt Fundraiser Forms
- New Managers Workshop
- OIG Fraud Posters and Hotline Number
- Danna Standridge's new Cookbook

Reviews and Reminders

Monthly Memos

- USDA
- ALSDE

- Breakfast Funding
- Districts in the News
- One-Time Exemptions (OTE)
- Equipment Grant
- DC Rollover Imports
- LINQ Distributor Meeting Updates
- Updated F/R Meal Applications
- Health Inspections
- Changes to Grant Funds
- Culinary Challenge
- Recipes and Cookbook
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Top Topics

Training Tidbits

- New Managers
- Administrative Review
- New Directors
- RCCI Financial
- Fall Conference

- Juanita Riley, Clay County Schools

Sponsor Spotlight

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

SUZANNAH YODER

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS



Annual Agreements are due! If you have not submitted your agreement for review, it should be done today.

CEP applications must be submitted AND approved by deadline of June 30. USDA is not granting any leniency with missing this deadline.

If your district doesn't have a current, approved application, you will not be able to submit a claim for reimbursement.

2026-2027 Application Packet

Packet Submitted Date: 06/25/2022
Packet Approved Date: 06/25/2022
Packet Original Approval Date: 06/25/2022
Packet Status: Approve <<

Packet Assigned To: Suzannah Yoder

Action	Attention	Form Name	Latest Version	Status
View Revise	✓	Sponsor Application	Original	Approved
View Admin Revise	✓	Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Schedule	Original	Approved
Details	✓	Meal Pattern Compliance Dashboard		Approved
Details	✓	Checklist Summary (5)		
Details		Application Packet Notes		
View		Application Packet Notes for Sponsor		
Details		Attachment List (3)		
Details		NDL Application Packet Dashboard (15)		Complete

Site Applications	Approved	Pending	Return for Correction	Denied	Withdrawn/ Closed	Error	Total Applications
School Nutrition Program	9	0	0	0	0	0	9
Seamless Summer Option	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

USDA has published a new Non-Discrimination Statement



FNS Nondiscrimination Statements (NDS) | Food and Nutrition Service "All Other Programs" Version

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/civil-rights/nds>

[Home](#) » [Child Nutrition Programs](#) » [USDA Nondiscrimination Statement](#)

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

Search within this section...

Search

USDA FNS NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT (FNS)

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. **Mail:** U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. **Fax:** 2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or



Alabama Achieves Website



LINQ State Site:

Non-Discrimination Statement

■ **USDA FNS Nondiscrimination Statement (NDS)**

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

As required at 7 CFR 245.5(a), near the **beginning of each school year** the public must be notified that free and reduced price meals and free milk are available. The public notice must be provided to:

1. A local news media outlet
2. The nearest unemployment office
3. Any major employers contemplating large layoffs in the attendance area of the school.

on or After **July 1**

PUBLIC RELEASE

This is the public release which will be sent to the agencies listed below:

SENT TO: News Media: _____ Date: _____
Unemployment Office: _____ Date: _____
Major Employers: _____ Date: _____

Public Release

[Name of School/School District] National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program. For School Year 2026-2027 [school district] [will continue participation OR will participate] in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). No further action is required of you. This USDA provision allows your child(ren) to participate in the school meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit a meal application.

CEP is a key provision of the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010, which allows schools and school districts in low-income areas to eliminate school meal applications and serve breakfast and lunch at no charge to all enrolled students. CEP gives food service professionals more time to focus on preparing nutritious meals that their students will enjoy and gives students more time to eat those meals by cutting down on time spent in the lunch line. More importantly, by offering all students a nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost, CEP helps ensure more students come to class well-nourished and ready to learn.

Children need healthy meals to learn. [Name of School/School District] offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast and lunch meals will follow the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidelines for healthy school meals, so please encourage students to participate. "In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability."

Parents or guardians who need further information may contact [insert name here], Child Nutrition Program Director [insert contact info].

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS



Triennial Assessments of Local Wellness Policies

LEAs must conduct an assessment of their wellness policy every three years, at a minimum.

This assessment determines:

- Compliance with the wellness policy,
- How the wellness policy compares to model wellness policies, and
- Progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy

Sponsors must make available to the public:

- The wellness policy, including any updates to and about the wellness policy, on an annual basis, at a minimum, and
- The Triennial Assessment, including progress toward meeting the goals of the policy.

Updated by: **June 30**

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

Superintendent's Smart Snack Attestation Statement & School Administrators Exempt Fundraiser Form for the first semester

Due by:
July 1

[Click here for the documents on Alabama Achieves.](#)

Alabama's Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Exempt Fundraisers Form

School Food Authority (SFA) _____

School Name _____

Please check one: _____

Form should be completed _____

	Sponsoring Organization
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Annual Attestation Statement

DATE: _____

FROM: [School Food Authority Superintendent]

TO: [State Agency Official and Title]

SUBJECT: Attestation of Compliance with Alabama Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities

Instruction: The following statement must be signed by the school food authority (SFA) superintendent operating exempt food fundraisers in schools with National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Programs, and filed as outlined in the Alabama Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities.

I _____, as the superintendent of _____ [SFA Name], do hereby attest that the aforementioned SFA and all schools under its jurisdiction operating the National School Lunch Program authorized under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq), and/or the School Breakfast Program authorized under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773), are in compliance with Alabama Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities for School Year _____.

I certify that this attestation is true and correct, and therefore, I believe _____ [SFA Name] is in compliance with Alabama Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities.

In addition, I understand that Alabama Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities Form must be completed semi-annually and filed by the following dates: July 1 and January 1 of each School Year.

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

Registration for our annual New Managers' Workshop is now closed.

We have reserved space for participants whose director entered "TBD" in the registrant's name field, and their information will be updated upon check-in.

We look forward to a fun, engaging, and information-packed training event!



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS



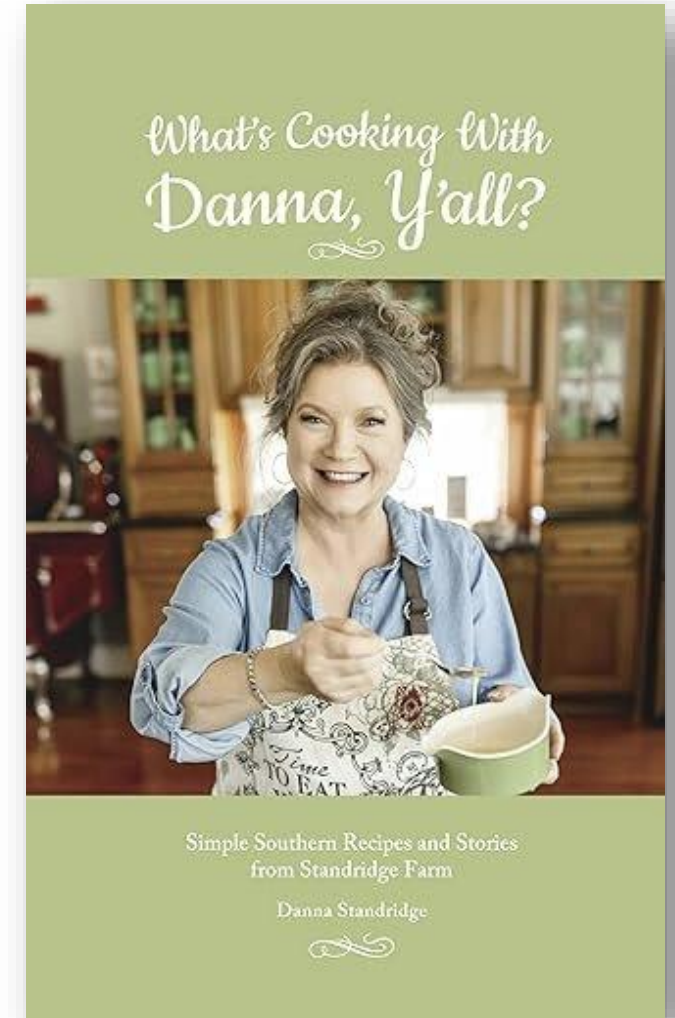
Directors and school superintendents recently received an email with a link to USDA's newly published guidance on reporting waste, fraud, and abuse in federal programs. If you would like to display this information in your kitchen areas, you can access a printable version by clicking here: [OIG Fraud Posters and Hotline Number - Break for a Plate Alabama](#)

For clarification, these posters do not replace the "And Justice for All" posters and the posters are not required to be posted but it is recommended by OIG to make the information as accessible as possible.

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

Exciting news! Danna Standridge's new cookbook is now available on Amazon—and it features CNP in her recipes!

Danna Standridge is a cookbook author and passionate advocate for local agriculture who helps operate her family's generational farm in Blount County, AL. As a former Sweet Grown Alabama Ambassador and engaging speaker, she promotes locally grown foods and inspires home cooks, as well as a few of our own CNP groups, through her storytelling and love of Southern cooking.





MONTHLY MEMOS

CHAD LANGSTON

TABLE TALK

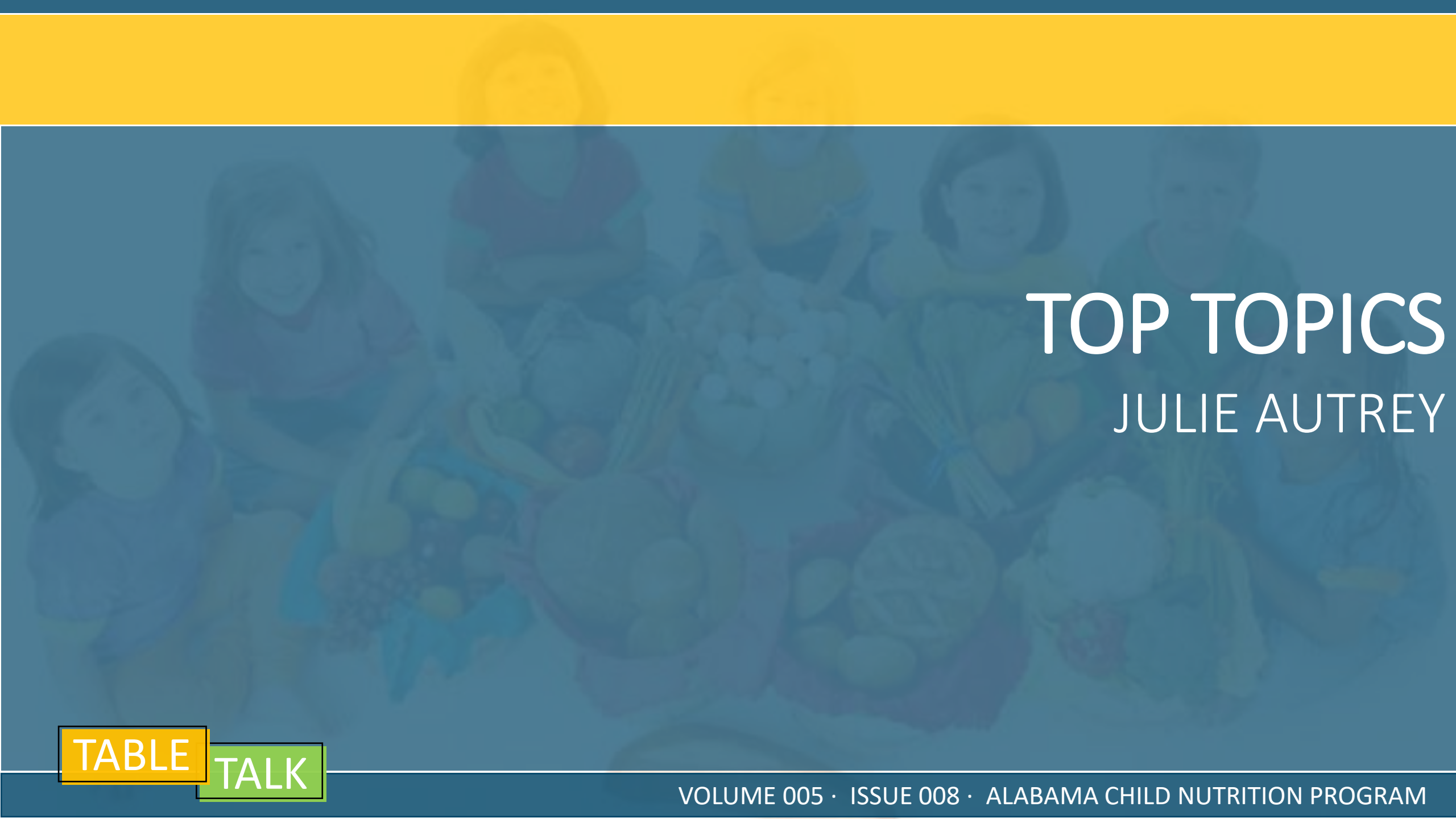
VOLUME 005 · ISSUE 008 · ALABAMA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

MONTHLY MEMOS

- Reminder: Join Us for ALSDE's Summer Culinary Trainings! – 4/29/26
- Celebrate School Lunch Hero Day on May 1st! – 4/29/26
- Revised CEP Eligibility Report for SY 2026–2027 – 4/30/26
- Buy American Resources – 5/5/26
- LINQ Annual Agreement Now Open – School Year 2026–2027 – 5/5/26
- FINAL REMINDER – Applications Due May 8 for the ALSDE Culinary Challenge – 5/7/26
- USDA OIG Fraud Posters – District Order Request – 5/8/26
- 2026 Child Nutrition Program New Managers' Training – 5/11/26
- Expanding Fluid Milk Options in the Child Nutrition Programs – 5/12/26
- Reminder: FFVP Grant Application Deadline – May 15, 2026 – 5/13/26
- Don't Miss This! Universal Free Breakfast Funding for 2026–2027 – 5/13/26

MONTHLY MEMOS

- Follow-Up: Universal Breakfast Opportunity (Important Clarification) – 5/14/26
- SFSP Outreach Requirement & Summer Nutrition Flyers – 5/19/26
- Reminder: Open Seats Available for the 2026 ALSDE Summer Culinary Trainings! – 5/21/26
- School Year 2026-2027 Free and Reduced-Price School Meals, Public Release, and Webinar – 5/21/26
- Permanent Agreement Distributed via DocuSign – 5/28/26
- Area Meeting Presentations Now Available – 5/29/26
- USDA Memorandums: SP 08-2026 - Expanding Fluid Milk Options in Child Nutrition Programs – 6/4/26
- Direct Certification Imports – 6/8/26 (Public & Charter Schools Only)
- Reminder: Open Seats Available for the 2026 ALSDE Summer Culinary Trainings! – 6/8/26
- Potential Tropical Weather/ Weather Impact Reporting Reminder – 6/16/26
- School Nutrition Programs Accounting Practices for RCCI's and Private Schools – 6/22/26



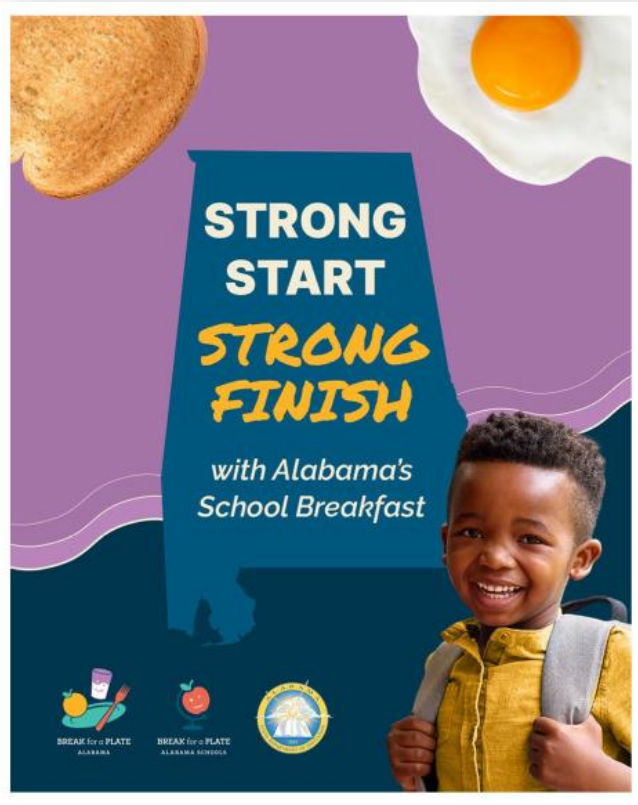
TOP TOPICS

JULIE AUTREY

TABLE TALK

VOLUME 005 · ISSUE 008 · ALABAMA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

In the News: Breakfast Funding



Thanks to another \$7.3 million in supplemental funding approved by the Alabama Legislature this year, schools may offer breakfast at no cost to all students, regardless of income. This initiative allows schools to pilot Universal Breakfast supporting students' health, learning, and overall well-being.

In the upcoming school year, Alabama will have 16 sponsors operating Universal Free Breakfast, which is an increase of 220% from last year!

Universal breakfast helps:

- Ensure every student starts the day nourished and ready to learn
- Reduce food insecurity and eliminate stigma
- Increase breakfast participation and maximize available funding
- Provide meaningful relief to families during challenging economic times

FY2026 Allocation set to be released in September before the end of the fiscal year.

In the News: District Spotlights

Tennessee Valley schools prepare for higher demand in free summer meal programs



Featuring Albertville, Athens, and Huntsville City Schools

Oxford City Schools summer feeding program returns



Chilton County Schools step up to fight summer food insecurity



Several Alabama Child Nutrition summer programs have recently been featured in local news outlets. Directors and staff are doing an outstanding job of sharing a positive message about prioritizing student nutritional needs throughout the summer months.

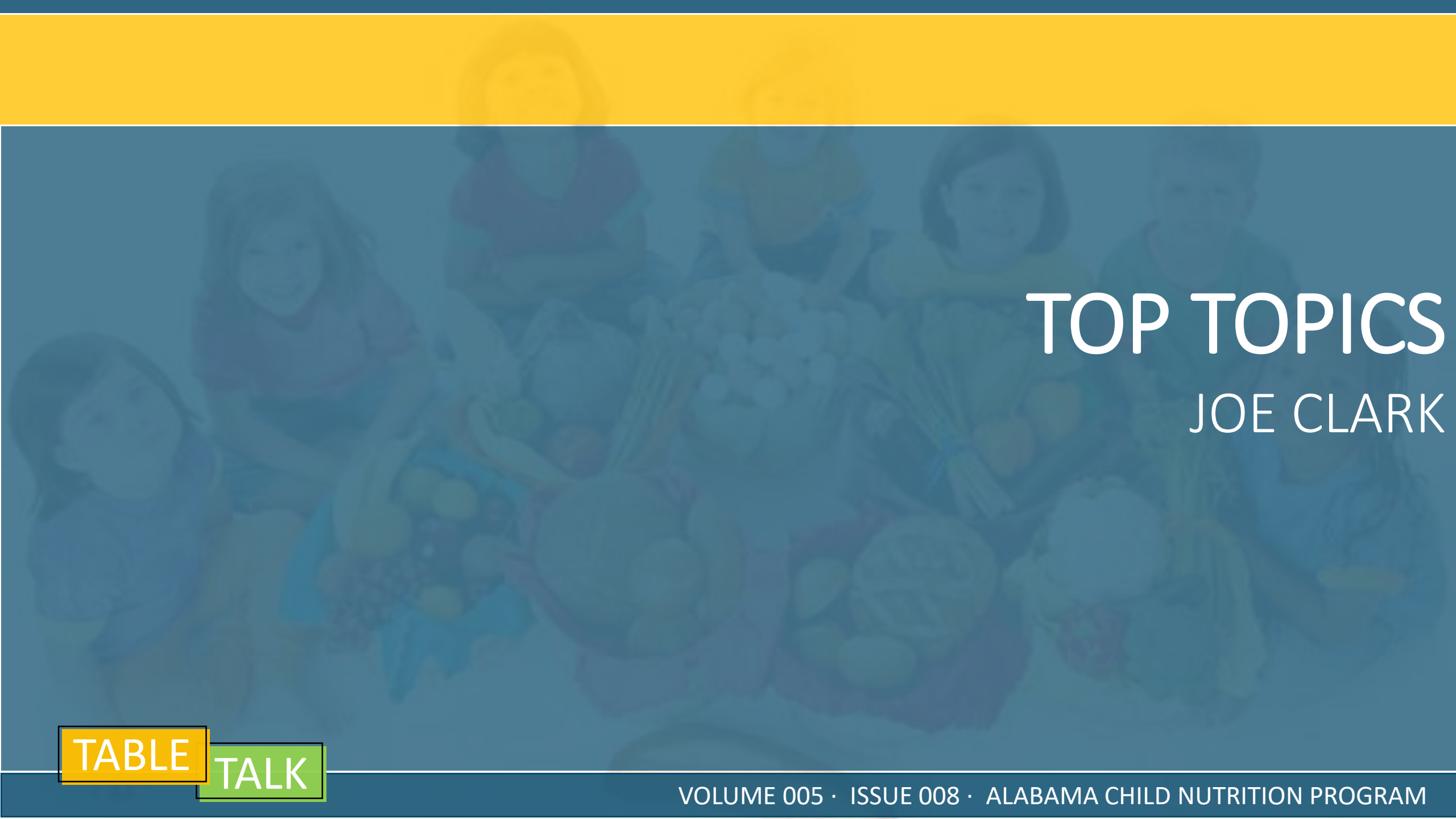
In the News: District Spotlights

Proposed Changes to Federal Funding Rules that could affect Farm to School Funds:

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is accepting public comments through **July 13, 2026** on a proposal that would make significant changes to the federal rules governing grants, cooperative agreements, and other forms of federal financial assistance. These rules—often called the Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Part 200)—affect how federal agencies administer funding programs and awards.



Go to the rule page at [federalregister.gov](https://www.federalregister.gov) and click "SUBMIT A PUBLIC COMMENT"



TOP TOPICS

JOE CLARK

TABLE TALK

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One-Time Exemption (OTE)

Per 7 CFR § 210.8(b)(1), an SFA's final claim for reimbursement must be submitted no later than 60 days after the last day of the claim month. Claims filed after that deadline are not payable unless USDA authorizes an exception.

An exception is allowed once every three years. If you submit a claim past the 60-day deadline, LINQ will ask if you want to use your OTE, if available.

Sponsors electing to use an OTE are required to submit a corrective action plan (CAP) that SDE Accounting will review.

The CAP must provide:

1. Details as to why the claim is late.
2. Procedures that have been put into place to avoid future claims being filed late.

If the CAP is approved, the claim is paid. If not, it will be sent back for revision.



One-Time Exemption (OTE)



Since OTE is only available **once every three years**, it is important to carefully consider when its use is truly warranted. For example, if an entire claim was not submitted, utilizing an OTE may be appropriate. However, if a detail with a smaller financial impact, such as omitting a snack count at a single site, it may not justify its use.

It is also important to note that OTE is issued on a per-program basis. Therefore, if you operate multiple programs, you could potentially use an OTE for NSLP/SBP in one year, CACFP in another year, and SFSP in a subsequent year.

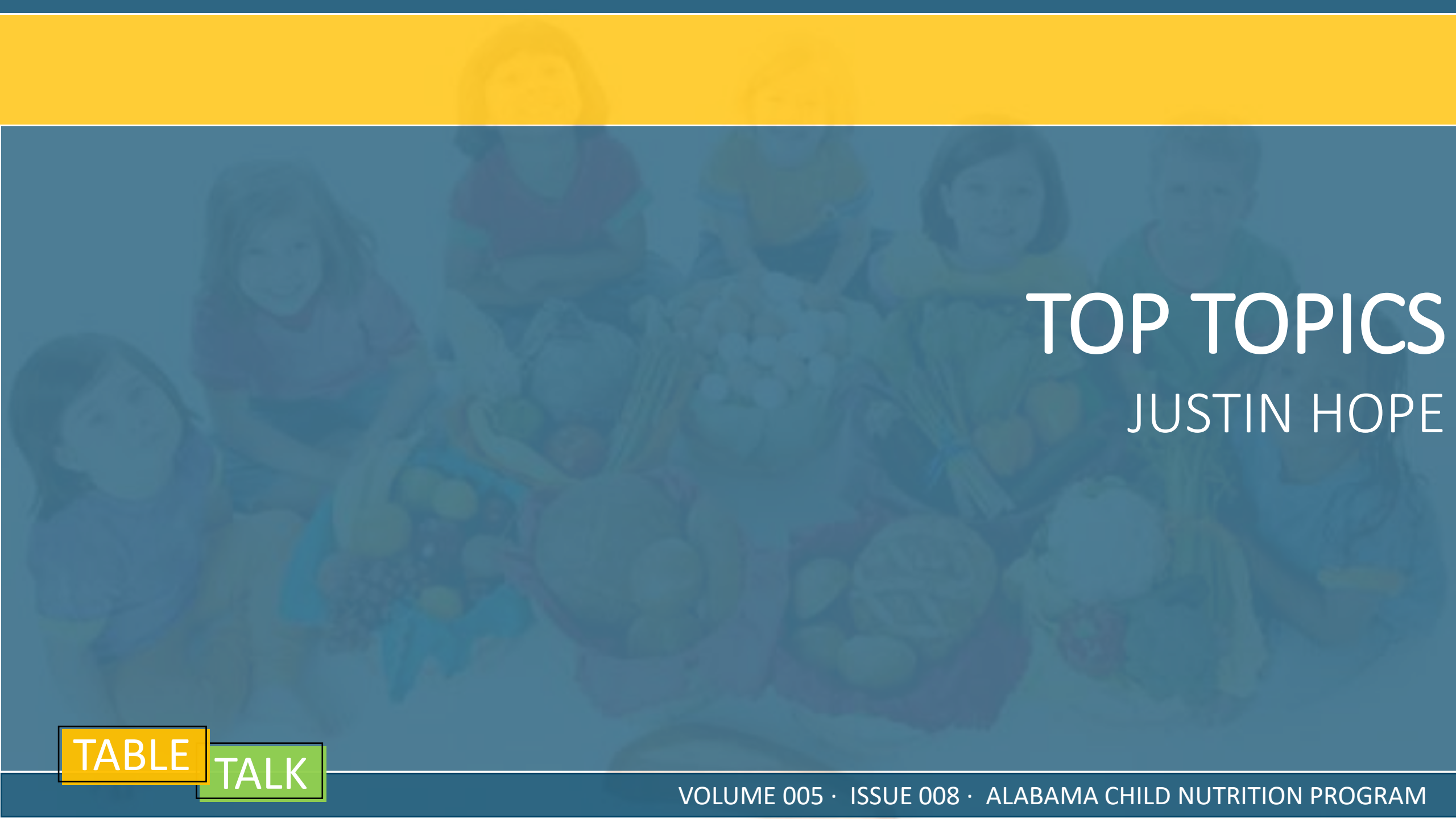
Equipment Grant

The administration has officially authorized the release of the NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant; however, the process for receiving these funds has been significantly revised. In previous years, the state was allocated a set amount, and once the Notice of Funding Availability was published, we would submit our draft application and instructions to the Southeast Regional Office (SERO). Following their review, we would make any necessary revisions before opening the application process to our SFAs.

This year, we were required to submit a grant application through Grants.gov that included all materials previously provided to SERO, along with additional required documentation. The application was submitted last month, and we have been advised that the anticipated award date is August.

Upon approval, we will begin accepting subgrant applications, with a submission deadline of November 2, 2026. Award recipients will be announced in January 2027. To maximize the number of participants who can benefit, individual awards will be capped at \$50,000. Additional details will be shared as they become available.





TOP TOPICS

JUSTIN HOPE

TABLE TALK

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DC Rollover Imports

LINQ School Nutrition Reminders for POS Users

1. Direct Certification Import- Pause Prior to July 1

A. Utilities

B. Job Scheduler

C. Direct Certification Flat File

- I. Click on the Pencil
- II. Click on check mark beside active to inactivate it.
- III. Click Save

D. Wait until for ALSDE notification of successful DC Data to restart.

The screenshot displays two windows from the LINQ School Nutrition Suite. The top window, titled 'Job Schedule', is used for configuring data imports. It includes fields for 'Name' (Direct Certification Flat File), 'Schedule Type' (Data Import Template), and 'Data Import Template' (Direct Certification Flat File). The 'Schedule' section shows a frequency of 'Every: Week' on 'Sunday' at '0:05' (hours:minutes). The 'Source' is set to 'Ftp' and the 'Path' is 'PSDirectCertLunch.txt'. The 'Url' is 'sftp://sftp.titank12.com:22'. The bottom window, titled 'Run as User', shows a list of users with a status column. The 'Active' status is highlighted with a red circle, and the 'Save' button is also circled in red.



Distributor Meeting Highlights

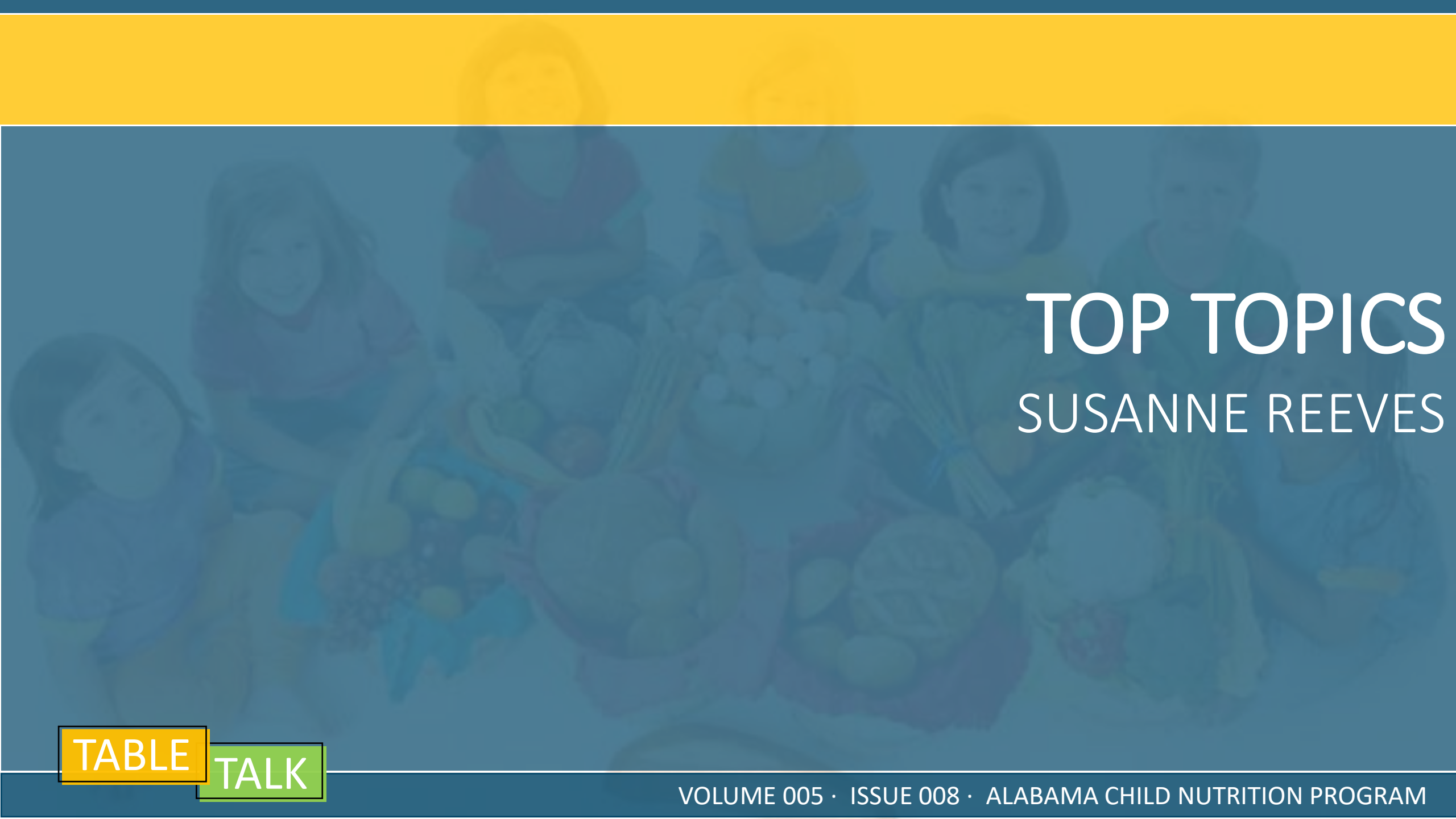
- Look for a status update from SWP on Monday, June 29
- Presentations will be available in the next few days.
- Common Order Issues
 - Max 20 Characters/Numbers
- Warehouse/Master Mapping Files
 - Will be available weekly starting in July- August.
 - All Districts will have to perform this by the mapping file.



****Most new items will be available for menu planning, but distributor availability will control purchasing**

[LINQ SWP Support Documents](#)

Click Link Above to Access



TOP TOPICS

SUSANNE REEVES

TABLE TALK

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Updated Free & Reduced Meal Apps



BREAK for a PLATE
ALABAMA

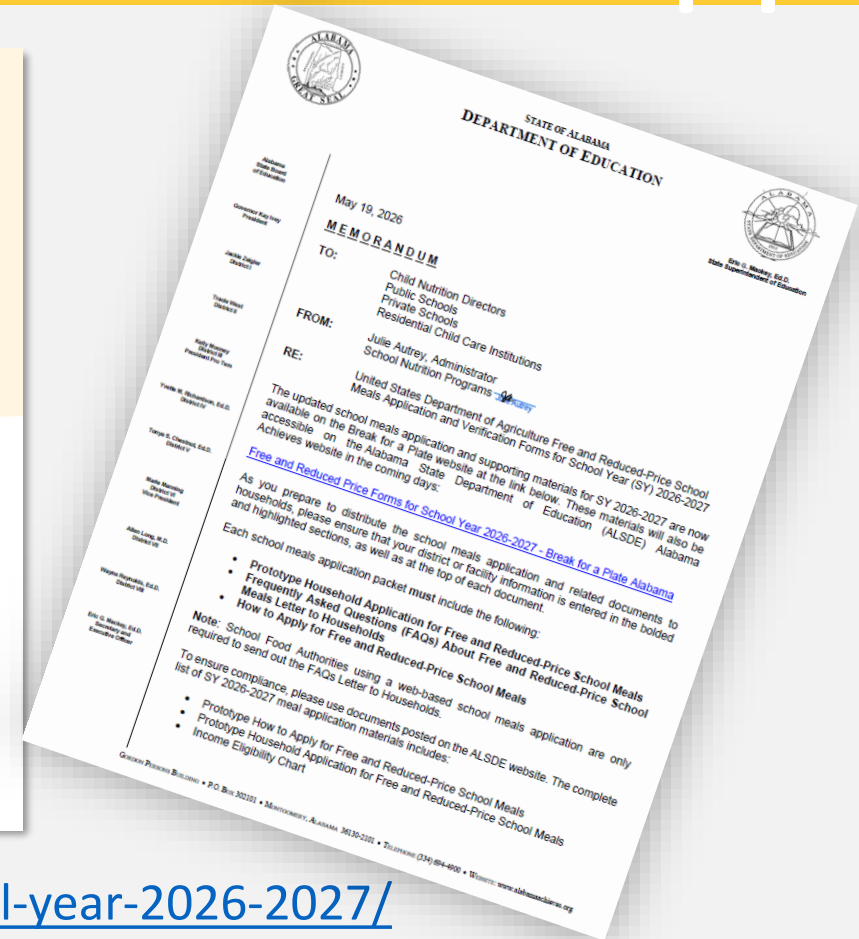
Community (Food Distribution) | Care Centers | Schools | Summer | News

NEWS

Free and Reduced Price Forms for School Year 2026-2027

The updated school meals application, supporting materials, and Free and Reduced Price webinar for School Year 2026-2027 is now available. Please use the links below to access the latest information.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact the School Nutrition Program staff at cnpnslp@alsde.edu or by phone at (334) 694-4657.



<https://www.breakforaplate.com/free-and-reduced-price-forms-for-school-year-2026-2027/>

Also in the Download Forms section of the LINQ Online Application

Updated Free & Reduced Meal Apps

Free and Reduced Forms for School Year 2026-2027

INCOME GUIDELINES 26-2027

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS SY 26-27

AL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS SY 26-27

AL HOUSEHOLD LETTERS SY26-27

AL PROTOTYPE APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS SY26-27

Webinar

FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATION WEBINAR SY 2026-2027

FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATION PRESENTATION SY26-27

Public Release

AL PUBLIC RELEASE CEP PARTIAL DISTRICT SY26-27

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-CEP DISTRICT WIDE-SY26-27

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-CEP TO PROVISION 2-SY26-27

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-PROVISION 2 DELAYED IMPLEMENTATION-SY26-27

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-PROVISION 2-SY26-27

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-SY26-27

Available for distribution after July 1.

Health Inspections

Time to submit SY 2025-2026 Health Inspection information!

Deadline is
6/30/26

- Information emailed to all sponsors 3/25/26
- All sponsors must have at least two inspections per year. If you do not have at least two, you need to show documentation that health inspections were requested to your local health department

Item	Description
Sponsor Manager	SNP Sponsor's Profile, Site and Hold Inform
Potential Sponsor	Potential Sponsor
Sponsor Application	Access to all program applications
Application Manager Dashboard	Application Management Tool
Application Packet	Applications Forms (Sponsor and Site)
Meal Pattern Compliance Summary	Number of Menu Pattern Certifications b
Verification Report	Mandatory Annual Verification Report
Verification Summary	Mandatory Annual Verification Report (F
Second Review of Applications	FNS-874 report for Sponsors selected to
Food Safety Inspections	Number of Food Safety Inspections by S
Food Safety Inspections Summary	Number of Food Safety Inspections by S

Applications > Food Safety Inspections >

Food Safety Insp

132-0000 Status: Active
Enterprise City Board of Education
DBA:
220 Hutchinson Street
Enterprise, AL 36330-1934
County: Coffee
FEIN: 63-6000875

Action	School Year
Modify	2025 - 2026

Instructions

Food Safety Inspections for School Year (SY) 2025 - 2026

Indicate the number of Food Safety Inspections conducted at each listed site between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. If you did not select "Two" or "Three or more" in item 1a, you MUST also indicate WHY you did not meet the regulation by selecting one of the options in item 1b. If you select "Other", enter the reason in the space provided.

Site ID	Site Name and Address	1. Safety Inspections performed in 2025 - 2026. For each site indicating either "Zero" or "One", select the reason in 1b.	
		1a. Food Safety Inspections	1b. Reason for fewer than two inspections conducted (Select the most predominant reason).
1320045	Brookwood Elementary School 6500 Boll Weevil Circle Enterprise AL, 36330-9238	Two	
1320030	Coppinville Junior High School 4641 Boll Weevil Circle Enterprise AL, 36330-0000	One	Scheduling - Inspector Not Available
1320040	Dauphin Junior High School 1271 Dauphin Street Extension Enterprise AL, 36330-1269	None	Other
1320050	Enterprise High School		

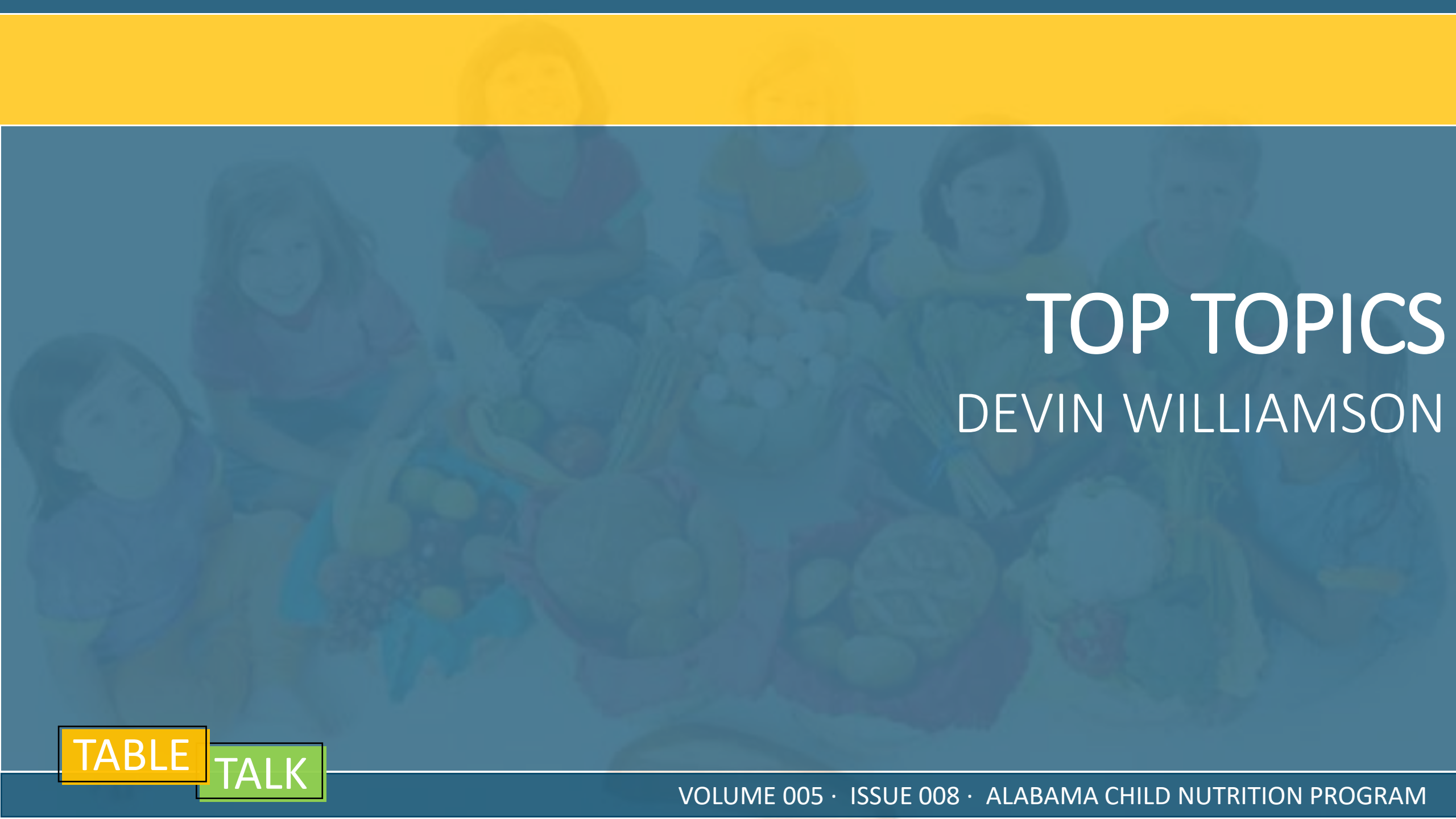
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Breakfast Grant Funds

As you begin expending your breakfast grant funds, please follow the guidance below if the cost of awarded items is less than the total grant amount:

- **Notify ALSDE if you do not expect to fully expend your awarded funds.**
 - Include how you plan to use the remaining funds to support breakfast before the end of the fiscal year (September 30, 2026).
 - Maintain all documentation related to grant expenditures, including invoices and records of purchases.
- **What to submit:**
 - A brief paragraph describing the change or update to the grant award.
- **How to submit:**
 - Send your notification by email to CNPNSLP@alsde.edu
 - Use the subject line: “Breakfast Grant Update”



TOP TOPICS

DEVIN WILLIAMSON

TABLE TALK

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SY 26-27 Culinary Challenge Awardees

Awardees
Alexander City
Cullman City
Gulf Shores City
Houston County
Lanett City
Legacy Prep
Ozark City
Tuscaloosa City



SY 26-27 Culinary Challenge Awardees

Page 14A The Southern Star Thursday, June 4, 2026

Education

Ozark City Schools expands Culinary Challenge program

By Derek Jones, OCS
Director of Child
Nutrition

After a successful year of participation at Carroll High School, Ozark City Schools is expanding its culinary initiative districtwide to strengthen scratch cooking and improve school meals for students. This year, the program will include Lisenby Primary School, Mixon Intermediate School, D.A. Smith Junior High School, and Carroll High School. Ozark City Schools is one of only eight school districts in Alabama selected to participate in the program.

The Culinary Challenge is designed to help school child nutrition programs (CNP) increase scratch cooking, expand the use of Alabama-grown ingredients, and strengthen culinary skills among school nutrition staff through hands-on training, recipe development, and technical assistance.

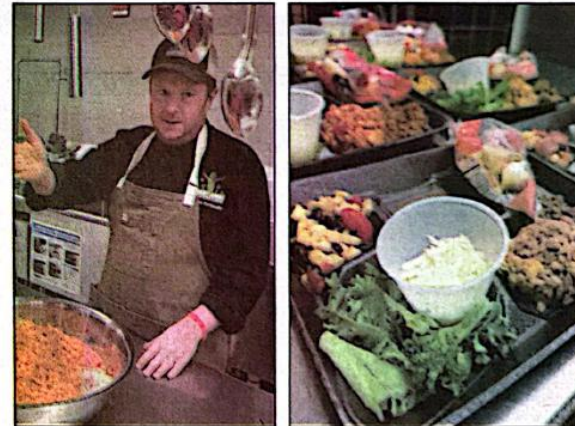
Our CNP workers will work directly with chefs from the Chef Ann Foundation to develop sustainable scratch-cooking practices and introduce new Southern-inspired recipes featuring local products to our students. Through the program, Ozark City Schools will continue its efforts to reduce ultra-processed foods in student meals while teaching children the importance of making healthy food choices that support lifelong wellness and healthier living. Students will participate in monthly taste tests featuring fresh ingredients and scratch-made recipes designed to encourage healthier eating habits and increase exposure to nutritious foods.

The timing of this work also reflects a growing national focus on scratch cooking in schools. On May 20, 2026, the Scratch Cooked Meals for Students Act was reintro-

duced in Congress. The bipartisan bill would create a competitive USDA grant program to help schools expand scratch cooking by supporting staff training, kitchen equipment upgrades, technical assistance, and recipe development. This effort aligns closely with Ozark City Schools' work to strengthen child nutrition programs, reduce reliance on highly processed foods, and prepare fresh, healthy meals for students.

"Our goal is to provide students with meals that not only taste great, but also help build healthy habits for the future," said Ozark City Schools Child Nutrition Director Derek Jones. "This partnership allows our staff to continue growing their culinary skills while supporting Alabama agriculture and improving the quality of meals served to our students."

Ozark City Schools is



Pictured on the left is Chef Patrick Kenneally from the Chef Ann Foundation (CAF) leading live training at CHS, as he teaches students variations on a burrito bowl (pictured on the right) developed by the CAF. Photos courtesy of OCS.

proud to support Alabama agriculture by serving locally grown and locally produced foods from Riley Creek Farms, Birdsong Berries, Corn Dodgers Farm, Conecuh Sausage, and Ino Persimmons. We are also excited to welcome Joyful Farms of Ozark to our Child Nu-

trition Program this fall. By partnering with local farmers, we are able to provide fresher ingredients, strengthen our local economy, and help students build healthier eating habits. To learn more about supporting Alabama farmers and purchasing local prod-

ucts, visit Sweet Grown Alabama.

Ozark City Schools' Child Nutrition Program continues to focus on Farm to School partnerships, scratch cooking, and creating nutritious meals that support student health, academic success, and the local community.



Summer Culinary Trainings

**Summer Culinary Trainings
are Underway!**



**TABLE
TALK**

VOLUME 005 · ISSUE 008 · ALABAMA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

Recipes in LINQ

ALSDE Farm-to-School Database is growing!



For a list of current items, Linq users can filter your Item Data Report for “Chef Ann” tag. **Fresh ingredients** are available to all areas. Each F2S recipe has a version for the two distributor Order Guides

Item Name
Apple Pecan Crisp (1,5,6)
Apple Pecan Crisp (2,3,4)
Apples, whole fresh, any variety
Breadcrumbs, dried
Butterhead Lettuce Salad w/ honey mustard vinaigrette 1,5,6
Butterhead Lettuce Salad w/ honey mustard vinaigrette 2,3,4
Butternut Squash Dirty Rice (1,5,6)
Butternut Squash Dirty Rice (2,3,4)
Butternut Squash, fresh peeled and cubed
Cabbage, fresh, green
Cabbage, fresh, red
Cajun Roasted Sweet Potatoes (1,5,6)
Cajun Roasted Sweet Potatoes (2,3,4)
Cheese, feta
Cheesy Squash, Sausage and Rice Casserole (1,5,6)

In addition to the digital recipe collection, you can look forward to an old-fashioned Alabama Farm to School Cookbook! In the works: Recipes and Photos of all the student-approved Harvest of the Month Recipes to date! We are creating a binder format so that additional recipes may be added as we work toward offering more scratch-made and locally produced foods in our kitchens.

Sweet Grown Alabama



“Peach Patch Sheet-Pan Pancakes”

FFVP Award Coming Soon!

- 150 applications received
- All schools that spent 90% of grant funds last year will be awarded
- Middle schools are unable to be awarded
- Plan a similar amount to last year or a little less
- Informal notification of funds will occur in July



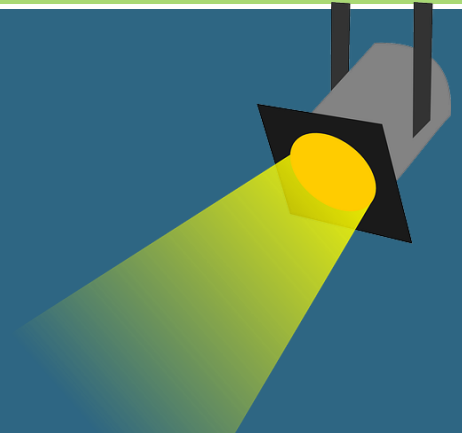
Photo: Opelika City Schools, Jeter Primary
FFVP Corn Roast

TRAINING TIDBITS

SUZANNAH YODER

TRAINING TIDBITS

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	AREA
NEW MANAGERS' TRAINING	JULY 7 – 8, 2026	Shelby County Instructional Services Center	Alabaster, Alabama
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TRAINING	AUGUST 18-19, 2026	Gordon Persons Building Auditorium	Montgomery, AL
NEW DIRECTORS' TRAINING	AUGUST 20-21, 2026	Gordon Persons Building Auditorium & Conference Room	Montgomery, AL
RCCI FINANCIAL TRAINING	AUGUST 21, 2026	Gordon Persons Building Conference Room	Montgomery, AL
2026 FALL CONFERENCE	NOVEMBER 17 – 20, 2026	The Grand Hotel and Conference Center	Point Clear, AL



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TABLE TALK

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Juanita Riley

Clay County Schools

Ms. Juanita has served as the Clay County School System Child Nutrition Director for the past 11 years, overseeing 4 schools. She currently leads a team of 17 dedicated employees who work hard every day to ensure their students receive healthy, nutritious meals.

My favorite part of the job is knowing that the meals we serve help students learn, grow, and succeed. I also enjoy working alongside an amazing staff. The success of any child nutrition program depends on teamwork, and I am fortunate to work with a group of employees who care deeply about serving students and supporting one another.

My least favorite part of the job is managing the administrative challenges that come with the position. Regulations and staffing concerns are necessary parts of the job, but they can sometimes take time away from the people-focused aspects that I enjoy most.

The most meaningful thing about my job is seeing the positive impact our program has on students. Knowing that we provide nutritious meals in a positive atmosphere that students can count on each day is incredibly rewarding.

The most interesting thing about my job is that no two days are ever the same. From menu planning and nutrition standards to managing staff and school operations, every day brings new opportunities and challenges.

My best advice for new Child Nutrition Program Directors is to invest in your team. Build strong relationships, communicate openly, and recognize the value each employee brings to the program. A strong staff is the foundation of success. Stay flexible, continue learning, and always keep the students at the center of every decision.



ASK US



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Thank you for attending!
Be sure to document your attendance
by completing the survey.
Scan the QR code



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