

## CHILD NUTRITION

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

Identified Student Percentage for CEP	Apr 1
Distance Learning	Apr 2
Deadline to Submit CEP Reporting	Apr 15
Agreements and Policy Statements Mailed	Apr or May
Distance Learning	May 7
Manager Certification Workshop, Parts 1 & 2	June 15-26
Manager Recertification	June 29- July 3
Director Certification Training	July 6-17
Directors Conference	July 29-30
New Directors Conference (Part 1)	July 31

Arkansas Department of Education

# Nutrition News

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## Taylor Elementary Hosts Breakfast Month Kick-off

**JACKSONVILLE, AR (March 3, 2015)**—The Arkansas No Kid Hungry campaign and Midwest Dairy Council kicked off Arkansas School Breakfast Month at Taylor Elementary School in Jacksonville. Taylor is an Arkansas Meals for Achievement school that serves Breakfast in the Classroom to all of their students every morning. When asked what she likes best about the program, one 5th grader said, "I get to eat breakfast with my friends." A kindergartener said, "I like it because it's fun." According to Principal Myeisha Haywood, "Everything about this program works for my students."

Miss Teen International, Blair Wortsmith, was on hand to tell the kids that, as a student herself, eating a good breakfast is critical to keeping up with her studies and fulfilling her busy schedule as Miss Teen International. Blair supported Breakfast in the Classroom as a great way for kids to Fuel Their Greatness!

As part of the month-long celebration, the Arkansas No Kid Hungry campaign and Midwest Dairy Council will be sponsoring the [Arkansas Breakfast Challenge](#), which offers new grant dollars and incentives to help schools adopt Breakfast-After-the-Bell programs. Schools can apply for the Arkansas Breakfast Challenge through May 1, 2015.



**Make** the **Grade**  
with **SCHOOL BREAKFAST**

Miss Teen International Blair Wortsmith with students from Taylor Elementary School.





## FFVP Grant Announcement

Letters will be  
mailed to  
schools before  
the end of the  
school year.



## Arkansas School Health Conference

June 24-26, 2015

Crowne Plaza

Little Rock, AR

“Creating and Sustain-  
ing a Healthy School  
Culture”

Perfect for Wellness  
Committee Members,  
including Child Nutri-  
tion Directors!

[www.arkansasCSH.org](http://www.arkansasCSH.org)

## Complete the USDA Farm to School Census

It's time to complete the second biennial USDA Farm to School Census!

Back in 2013 we learned that more than 40,000 schools, serving 23.5 million students, were “bringing the farm to school.” A lot can change in two years and we're excited to receive updated information through the 2015 USDA Farm to School Census.

Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015F2SCensus>.

Please complete the questionnaire even if you are not currently purchasing any locally produced food or participating in farm to school by **May 29, 2015**.



## Farm to School Regional Workshops Planned

The Arkansas Children's Hospital Childhood Obesity Prevention Research Program and the Arkansas Grow Healthy team are excited to announce Farm to School Regional Workshops that will be available to schools, farmers and community partners in the fall of 2015. Participants can expect to learn how to menu, procure, market, and prepare local foods in schools. There will be business and production planning for farmers, and food safety training for schools and farmers.

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Hope, AR</b>        | October 15, 2015 at Southwest Research and Extension |
| <b>Monticello, AR</b>  | October 29, 2015 at the University of AR—Monticello  |
| <b>Jonesboro, AR</b>   | November 5, 2015 at Arkansas State University        |
| <b>Harrison, AR</b>    | November 11, 2015 at the North AR Community College  |
| <b>Little Rock, AR</b> | November 19, 2015 at the Arkansas 4-H Center         |

### Farm Tour in Newport

Arkansas Child Nutrition Directors and school foodservice staff are invited to tour Berries by Bill in Newport, Arkansas on April 13th at 2:00 PM. The program will include a walking tour of fields to see strawberry blooms, and freshly planted watermelon and sweet corn plants. After the tour there will be a meeting with owner Bill Landreth to discuss the variety of strawberries he grows, his food safety precautions, ordering/shipping methods for his farm, and fresh produce availability. The farm is located off of exit 83 on Highway 67 North in Newport, AR. Contact Andrew Carberry for more information—(501) 364-6555.

# Arkansas School Breakfast Month



Left to right: Rep. Charles Blake, Rep. Eddie Armstrong, Senator Bobby Pierce and Sen. Gary Stubblefield.

*Legislators, educators and hunger relief advocates support the importance of Breakfast-After-the-Bell programs.*

**LITTLE ROCK, AR (March 1, 2015)**- Legislators, hunger relief advocates and educators gathered in the Old Supreme Court Chambers of the Arkansas Capitol today to proclaim March as Arkansas School Breakfast Month.

A common theme ran through the remarks of Sen. Gary Stubblefield, Sen. Bobby Pierce, Rep. Eddie Armstrong and Rep. Charles Blake, all of whom spoke at today's event. As staunch supporters of Breakfast-After-the-Bell programs and Arkansas Meals for Achievement legislation, all recognized from personal experience that when we give our children what they need to grow and learn, we are giving them a chance to achieve more than they might otherwise. School breakfast is integral to helping children focus and learn. "This is a great program," said Senator Stubblefield, "and I hope it will continue forever."

## Educators Agree

Breakfast in the Classroom, Grab & Go and Second Chance breakfast models all take breakfast out of the cafeteria and make it part of the school day. While teachers were skeptical about the model, Principal Mellor says now, "Teachers can't imagine their days without Breakfast in the Classroom. It sets a good tone for the whole day."

Principal Mellor also shared the positive effects he is seeing in his school as a result of starting a Breakfast in the Classroom program. Schools like Daisy Bates Elementary School, that have Breakfast-After-the-Bell programs in place, are reporting increases in the numbers of eligible students who are eating breakfast, and that means more federal child nutrition reimbursement dollars to schools. "We're seeing more of our kids eating breakfast," Mellor said, "and I think that's why some of the discipline has improved and why attendance has improved. Our breakfast participation is up over 100% so we actually have more kids that come in for breakfast than we do for school lunch, and that's pretty phenomenal."

That the No Kid Hungry Breakfast-After-the-Bell programs are showing good results overall for Arkansas students is clear from the recent School Breakfast Scorecard: 2013-2014, a study by the Food Research and Action Center. Arkansas went from 12th to 10th in the nation in eligible students that are participating school breakfast.

## A month-long celebration

The Arkansas No Kid Hungry campaign and Midwest Dairy Council will be sponsoring the [Arkansas Breakfast Challenge](#), which offers new grant dollars and incentives to help schools adopt Breakfast-After-the-Bell programs. Schools can apply for the Arkansas Breakfast Challenge through May 1, 2015.

There will also be an [Orange Squeeze Photo Contest](#). Child Nutrition Directors from across the state will be sending creative photos of their students eating fresh oranges for breakfast on March 6th. The school with the most creative photo will receive a \$1,500 cash prize, second place will receive \$1,000 and the third place winner will receive \$500.

**Agreements and Policy Statements  
Will Be Mailed to District Superintendents Soon!**

**Remember** to complete the second After-school Snack On-side Review!

**Remember** to contact your local sanitarian if you have not received the second health inspection this school year!

## Community Eligibility Provision

Identified Student Percentage (as of April 1, 2015) by school for CEP Reporting is

**Due by April 15, 2015**

*See Commissioner's Memo FIN-15-098*

## Summer is right around the corner!

Start thinking about summer feeding!

CNU offers Seamless Summer Option and Regular Summer Meals Program.

DHS offers Summer Food Service Program.

## Arkansas School Breakfast Challenge

To encourage more schools to make breakfast part of the school day, the Arkansas No Kid Hungry campaign and Midwest Dairy Council are extending the application period for the Arkansas School Breakfast Challenge, which offers new grant dollars and incentives to help schools adopt Breakfast-After-the-Bell programs. Schools can apply for the Arkansas Breakfast Challenge through **May 1, 2015**.



## Tricks of the Trade

By Ally Mrachek, MS, RD

Nutrition Supervisor

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Fayetteville Public Schools

In an attempt to serve more local foods and meet the red/orange vegetable meal pattern requirement, Fayetteville Public Schools (FPS) now serves local Sweet Potato Cuts. This product has replaced sweet potato fries on the menu because its lower in fat and calories and better accepted by students. The sweet potato chunks are peeled, chopped, and IQF to reduce preparation time and make them easy to store; this product is an easy way to start purchasing local products for a farm to school program. FPS serves this product in the winter when fresh, local product is very limited. In the pictures you will see the frozen product, finished product on a tray, and signage used to promote the local item. A simple recipe is used: coat cuts with oil, salt, and pepper and roast in the oven.

Consider trying this local product or others that are available from your local distributor or local farmer!

**May 4-8, 2015 School Nutrition Association National Child Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week!**

# Deadline to Apply for Managers Training Workshop is April 20!

## ADE Commissioner's Communication Memos

The following Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner's Communication Memos relate to Child Nutrition Programs. A complete list can be accessed at [http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/fiscal-and-administrative-services/child\\_nutrition\\_unit/cn-related-commissioners-memos](http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/fiscal-and-administrative-services/child_nutrition_unit/cn-related-commissioners-memos)

FIN-15-088: 2015 Child Nutrition Manager's Training Workshop

FIN-15-083: Summer Meals 2015

FIN-15-080: March Distance Learning: Food Safety and Sanitation: Dangers of Listeria, Community Eligibility Provisions (CEP), and Procurement Standards of Conduct

FIN-15-079: APSCN Financial Expenditure Codes for School Food Authorities contracting with Food Service Management Companies

FIN-15-078: Smart Snacks Regulations and Second Trays

FIN-15-077: Funding Opportunity – Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program SY 2015-2016

FIN-15-074: New Requirement: Written Code of Conduct for Employees Involved in Procurement in Child Nutrition Program

FIN-15-073: Severe Need Breakfast Funding SY 2015-16

FIN-15-072: February 5th Distance Learning – SY 2015-16 Funds for AR Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program, Severe Need Funding, Summer Meals & Afterschool Snack Program, No Kid Hungry Update

FIN-15-071: Assessing Proposed Costs for Nutrition Education and Marketing Materials

FIN-15-058: Updated E-Rate Guidance for Schools Electing Community Eligibility Provision

FIN-15-057: Procuring Services of Purchasing Cooperatives, Group Purchasing Organizations, Group Buying Organizations, etc.

FIN-15-055: Eligibility Effective Date for Directly Certified Students

FIN-15-053: Determining Allowable School Fundraiser

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