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Office for Safety, Health & Nutrition Cecelia Torok Associate Director Superintendent of Public Instruction

To: LEAs participating in the National School Lunch Program

From: Cecelia Torok, Associate Director, Office for Safety, Health and Nutrition

Effective Date: 11/19/2007 - NSLP-07-08

Re: SCHOOL FOOD SAFETY INSPECTIONS – REQUIREMENTS AND MONITORING

Replaces: ODE NSLP Memo Issued 1/21/2005

This memorandum states the Ohio Department of Education's National School Lunch Program (NSLP) policy for food safety inspections required in schools participating in the National School Lunch (NSLP) or School Breakfast Programs (SBP). This policy is based on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Federal regulations 7CFR 210.13(b) and USDA policy memo SP-10. This memo replaces the Ohio Department of Education NSLP policy memo issued January 21, 2005.

A. SCHOOL FOOD SAFETY INSPECTIONS IN THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (NSLP) – AN OVERVIEW

- 1. Prior to July 1, 2005, Local Educational Agencies (LEA) participating in the NSLP were required to obtain a minimum of one food safety inspection per school per school year or comply with the frequency required by local standards.
- 2. As of July 1, 2005, all LEAs participating in the NSLP must obtain a minimum of two food safety inspections per school per school year, as required by the 2004 Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act.

B. SCHOOL FOOD SAFETY INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS IN THE NSLP

- 1. The inspections must be conducted by a State or local governmental agency responsible for food safety inspections.
 - a) LEAs must comply with local standards if additional inspections are required.
- 2. Schools must post, in a publicly visible location, a report on the most recent food safety inspection, and provide a copy of the food safety inspection report to a member of the public upon request.
- 3. ODE recognizes that there may be cases where an LEA attempts to obtain a second food safety inspection on behalf of a school or schools under its jurisdiction, and the local governmental agency may not have the staffing or resources at present to fulfill this request. In these cases, the LEA must maintain documentation demonstrating that the LEA attempted to obtain the second inspection on behalf of a school or schools under its jurisdiction and the local governmental agency was unable to comply during that school year.
 - a) The documentation must specify the date in which the second food safety inspection was requested, and the representative from the local governmental agency who responded to the request.



b) By June 1st of each school year, LEAs must notify ODE OSHN in writing of all incidents in which two food safety inspections are requested and the local governmental agency is unable to comply with one or more of the inspection requests.

C. MONITORING SCHOOL FOOD SAFETY INSPECTIONS IN THE NSLP

- The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) will review the number of food safety inspections obtained by the LEA on behalf of all of the schools selected for review, and the proper posting of the most recent food safety inspection during the LEAs' Coordinated Review Effort (CRE) and at any other time as requested by ODE.
- LEAs must report annually to ODE, per site, the number of food safety inspections obtained during School Years 2007, 2008, and 2009. This data will be collected electronically through the Ohio Claims Reimbursement and Reporting System (CRRS). LEAs are required to report the number of food safety inspections obtained per site for a given school year prior to November 15th of the following school year.

Please keep this memo on file for reference. If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact your NSLP regional consultant.



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