

Attendees

NYS Office of General Services (OGS) USDA Food Distribution

Nicholas Barber
Gabrielle Viens
Jeffrey Ruff
Alyssa Mantica
Arianna Jarvis
Tiffani Ricks

USDA Northeast Regional Office Food and Nutrition Service

N/A

SLAC Area Representatives

Area A - Scott Ziobrowski, Food Service Director, Hilton Central Schools
Area D - Bryan McCoy, Food Service Director, Broome Tioga BOCES
Area E - Kate Dorr, Food Service Director, Oneida BOCES
Area F - Kristin Colarusso-Martin, Massena Central School District
Area G - Lyn Prestia, Food Service Director, Monroe-Woodbury Central School District
Area J - Colleen Wise, Food Service Director, East Greenbush Central School District
Area K - Alessandro Palumbo, Food Service Director, Farmingdale Public Schools
Area L - Geoffrey Fasy, School Lunch Director, Canandaigua Public Schools
NYC - Anne O'Donnell, Director of Supply Chain Management, Office of Food & Nutrition Services
Direct Ship-to - Ruth Connor, Food Service Director, Buffalo City Board of Education

NYS Education Department (SED) – Child Nutrition Program Administration

Jamie McMillian
Tara Webster
Kristin Junco
Caitlyn Parry
Michele Beaver

New York School Nutrition Association (SNA)

Jennifer Martin

NYS Agriculture & Markets

Timothy McBride
Matthew Keen
Mark McMullen

Opening Remarks

- Nick and Gabrielle Opening statements.
- NSLP Growth for meeting.
- DLA/ USDA Changes
- Continuously working towards ensuring that the DOD/SEASHORE contract meets delivery expectations.
- Advocating to start training and educating members on programs and how to use them efficiently.
- Reminding SLAC members to ensure that their districts update OGS of any Food Service Director changes.

NYS Education Department (SED) – Child Nutrition Program Administration

Website: [Child Nutrition | NYSED](#)

Presentation

- Child Nutrition updates
- School participation has excelled since Universal meals were established
- Participation is up to 1.5 million breakfasts served and 1.6 million for lunch
- New SFA and RA application period will be from February 1, 2026 ~ June 30, 2026
- Ramadan waiver approved
- Whole milk for healthy kid's act of 2025. Modifications allowed for disability reasons. Will need to provide a written statement for milk modifications during lunch.
- Now offering whole milk and reduced fat 2%.
 - Discussion notes~ Most schools are not offering until 2026-27 school year
- SFA's may not charge or upcharge students for accommodations.
- Fiscal Year 2024 Equipment Grant has been awarded
- Farm to school regional summit registration open 02/23/2026 ~ 02/25/2026
- Long Island workshop, Berry Tech BOCES~ 05/27/2026
- Breakfast Week kits are now available to order
- Milk bid updates
 - Upstate Dairy issues~ Recipient Agencies are reminded to keep documentation if milk options are not delivered/available so that schools are not penalized for missing components

NYS Agriculture & Markets

Website: [Agriculture and Markets | Agriculture and Markets \(ny.gov\)](#)

Presentation

- 30% Initiative program
- Farm to School Grant open. Available every 2 years
- Looking to get more participants involved in the farm-to-school initiative.
- RSFI Grant just closed
- Looking forward to streamlining ordering processes.
- 13 Million spent this year
- Implementing new ideas to make applying and planning easier

NY School Nutrition Association (SNA)

Website: [Home \(nyschoolnutrition.org\)](#)

Presentation

- Modernizing the 30% initiative program on the website
- 2026 Annual Conference 04/28/2026 – 04/30/2026
- Legislative action conference 2026
- 2026 Regional Industry Seminars (R.I.S)
 - 10/20/2026 – Batavia
 - 10/22/2026 – Troy
 - 12/01/2026 – Long Island
 - 12/19/2026 – Syracuse
- School nutrition innovation and impact award will launch 2026
- New membership year
- Board meeting 02/02/2026
- #We Are NYSNA coming in April 2026

NYS Office of General Services (OGS) USDA Food Distribution

Website: [USDA Food Distribution](https://www.usda.gov/food-distribution) | [Office of General Services \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ogs.ny.gov)

Presentation

- Direct Delivery
 - Turkey breast and sliced deli meat are cancelled this year.
 - Ordering dates will be from 02/04/2026 – 03/04/2026.
 - There aren't any commodity complaints trending.
 - F.P.S Concluded with 90.6% participation.
- Direct Diversion
 - Will be back open April 10, 2026 – April 13, 2026
 - Processing
 - Voluntary sweeps are wrapped up.
 - Schools returned 638,552.77 and Received 667,821.06 back in entitlement.
 - Procurement needs to be well underway. Schools need to know which vendors to ship processing LBS to.
 - DoD Fresh and Pilot Program
 - New Vendor Seashore is taking on the Gargiulo contract.
 - Explained why there was an abrupt change in the DOD/ PILOT vendor due to the government shutdown.
 - Meeting coming up with the DLA and USDA regarding Seashore delivery operations and how to improve communication between them and the schools.

Thank you for representing your area and your participation in the School Lunch Advisory Council.