



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2009-162

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Crystal English, Nutrition Program Consultant NSLP *CE*
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Health, Safety & Nutrition Unit *AA*

DATE: October 9, 2009

SUBJECT: **Optional** H1N1 Preparation for Districts that Participate in the National School Lunch or the Summer Food Service Program

TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION TO SHARE

USDA has posted specific recommendations for your school district if you are interested in providing meals to at-risk children during school dismissals for an H1N1 outbreak. This would go into effect if the entire school was not in session due to an outbreak. This program would be designed, implemented and administered at a local level with the assistance of the Wyoming Department of Education.

A waiver program has been set up for any school district interested in participating. The waiver program allows agencies that are currently on the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to distribute meals to children when schools are dismissed due to H1N1.

Districts interested in developing a plan to provide meals to at-risk children during school dismissals for H1N1 will need to contact the Wyoming Department of Education to assist in developing an appropriate and specific plan.

Schools are a tremendous resource to communities in time of crisis and emergencies. We encourage schools to be active participants in community planning, to include meal service options in your emergency

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planning process, and to ensure that your school food professionals are actively engaged in the emergency planning process. In addition to the alternative meal service options provided by USDA, school food service staff and facilities are a significant resource to consider as part of the overall emergency planning process. Beyond meal service to children, schools may serve as preparation facilities where voluntary organizations and other community resources prepare and deliver meals or food packages to individuals and families during emergency situations.

The goal of the Wyoming Department of Education is to offer assistance any way possible to promote the health of children and families. We do not want children to lose access to school meals in the case of a school dismissal due to an H1N1 outbreak.

Please look on the following websites for more information.

- http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/policy-Memos/2009/SP_31-2009_os.pdf
- <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/school/index.html>
- <http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/emergencyplan/pandemic/index/html>
- www.flu.gov
- <http://rems.ed.gov>
- www.fns.usda.gov/disasters/pandemic

Please call Tamra Jackson, Nutrition Programs Supervisor, at 777-6263 for more information if you are interested in developing a plan to serve at-risk children during a school dismissal due to an H1N1 outbreak.

CE:AA:rs