

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting
Call In: 1-802-828-7667
Conference ID: 100 590 003#
1 National Life Drive, Davis 5, Room 532
Montpelier VT 05620-2501

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Present: Alyson Eastman, Deputy Secretary, Agency of Agriculture; Rosie Krueger, State Director of Child Nutrition Programs, Agency of Education.

AOE: Anne Bordonaro, Maureen Gaidys

Members of the public/others: None

Call to Order/Roll Call/Amendments to Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. There were no amendments to the agenda.

Review and Approve Minutes from September 22, 2021, Meeting

Eastman moved to approved minutes, Krueger seconded. The meeting minutes were approved.

Opportunity for Public to be Heard

There were no members of the public to be heard.

Universal Meals, federal program regulations, funding requirements – Rosie Krueger

Krueger referenced a document, [“Impact of Universal Free School Meals in Vermont”](#) that she prepared for Senate Agriculture a few years ago and said the funding calculations might be a little outdated, but the process was the same. She also suggested with working with written testimony that can be reviewed outside this meeting since they are such a small group.

Research into what other states’ work and work already conducted by AOE - Anne Bordonaro

Bordonaro talked about the educational uses of the data generated by meal applications processes. She spoke to her presentation, [“Other States’ Approaches to Universal Meals.”](#) She spoke about federal reporting requirements and low-income segregation, universal meals, Act 67, and how other states are implementing universal meals laws (specifically, California and Maine).

There was discussion on Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and Provision 2, impact on education budgets both state and local, Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) forms, verification of information, and public outreach.

Krueger said that Bordonaro had volunteered to start a draft report. This report would be circulated for review from Eastman and Brown.

Proposed Next Steps

- **Schedule meeting to invite stakeholders**

Krueger suggested inviting stakeholders to submit written comments focusing on specific concerns or thoughts that should be considered by the General Assembly and potential funding sources. She said AOE would reach out to stakeholders and request feedback/comments be received by November 19, 2021. There was comment on the reimbursement rate prohibiting use of local foods and a possible state incentive.

- **Assign AOE to begin drafting legislative report and circulate for comment**

AOE will start drafting a report to the Legislature and leave any sections blank that need further discussion. Krueger requested a Doodle poll for another Task Force meeting in early December. This meeting will review written comments received, discuss draft report, and make final recommendations. This leaves the month of December to finalize the report.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Meeting Minutes recorded by: Maureen Gaidys