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Administrative Review Summary

Section 207 of the HHKFA amended section 22 of the NSLA (42 U.S.C. 1769c) to require State Agencies to report the final results of the administrative review to the public in an accessible, easily understood manner in accordance with guidelines promulgated by the Secretary. Regulations at 7 CFR 210.18(m) require the State Agency to post a summary of the most recent final administrative review results for each SFA on the State Agency's publicly available website. It is the policy of the Vermont State Agency to provide each SFA with review findings at the exit conference.

School Food Authority Name: Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union

Self-operated

Food Service Management Company Contract

Date(s) of Administrative Review: December 5, 2017

Date review summary was publicly posted: January 30, 2018

General Program Participation

1. What Child Nutrition Programs does the School Food Authority operate?

School Breakfast Program

National School Lunch Program

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

Afterschool Snack

Special Milk Program

Seamless Summer Option

2. Does the School Food Authority operate under any Special Provisions? (*These provisions are an alternative to household applications for free and reduced price meals in high poverty areas.*)

Community Eligibility Provision

Special Provision 1

Special Provision 2

Special Provision 3

Review Findings

3. Commendations: The review manual was very well organized, materials were sent in advance, and staff were very helpful.
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4. Were any findings identified during the review of this SFA? YES NO

If yes, indicate the areas and what issues were identified in the findings review below.

REVIEW FINDINGS

A. Program Access and Reimbursement

1. **Certification and Benefit Issuance** – Validation of the SFA certification of students' eligibility for free or reduced-price meals

YES NO

Finding Detail:

- 1 application error and 5 benefit issuance errors. Eight applications were missing a social security number. Some applications did not include the approval signature, date and category of eligibility.
- The Direct Certification List and master lists were not compiled correctly
- The communication system between food service and the approving officer needs improvement.

2. **Verification** – Validation of the process used by the SFA to confirm selected students' eligibility for free and reduced-price meals

YES NO

Finding Detail:

3. **Meal Counting and Claiming** – Validation of the SFA meal counting and claiming system that accurately counts, records, consolidates, and reports the number of reimbursable meals claimed by category

YES NO

Finding Detail:

- The number of free breakfasts claimed is greater than the attendance adjusted eligible.

- Fisher Elementary School and Arlington Memorial High School have not been reporting the adult meals served.
- The SFA is observed to not be receiving the additional .06 cent certification.

B. Meal Pattern and Nutritional Quality

1. **Meal Components and Quantities** – Validation that meals claimed for reimbursement contain the required meal components / food components and quantities

YES NO

Finding Detail:

- The school meal program is strongly encouraged to add more variety to their menus.
- Planned menus were changed and substitutions did not always meet the planned component requirements.
- The meal production records are not sufficiently documenting that meal pattern requirements.

2. **Offer versus Serve (OVS)** – Validation of SFA compliance with provision that allows students to decline some of the food components offered

YES NO

Finding Detail:

- The SFA and Café Services, Fresh Picks at Fisher Elementary is not fully implementing Offer versus Serve.

3. **Dietary Specifications and Nutrient Analysis** – Validation that meals offered to children through the school meal programs are consistent with federal standards

YES NO

Finding Detail:

C. General Program Compliance

1. **Civil Rights** – Validation of SFA compliance with civil rights requirements as applicable to the Child Nutrition Programs

YES NO

Finding Detail:

2. **SFA On-site Monitoring** – Validation that each SFA with more than one school operating the NSLP performs required onsite reviews as specified by regulations

YES NO

Finding Detail:

3. **Local School Wellness Policy and School Meal Environment**– Documentation of compliance with the established Local School Wellness Policy

YES NO

Finding Detail:

- **The wellness policy was missing** the new healthy snack standards and needs to include language that incorporates students, parents, and community members in the implementation and ongoing evaluation of the wellness policy.

4. **Smart Snacks in School** – Validation of the SFA compliance with regulations for all food and beverages to students outside of the reimbursable meal

YES NO

Finding Detail:

5. **Professional Standards** – Validation of the SFA compliance with required hiring standards and annual training requirements

YES NO

Finding Detail:

6. **Water** – Documentation that children have access to water during the lunch and breakfast meal services

YES NO

Finding Detail:

7. **Food Safety and Storage** – Validation that schools meet food safety and storage requirements

YES NO

Finding Detail:

8. **Buy American** – Documentation that schools comply with Buy American provision and policy specified by regulation

YES NO

Finding Detail:

- Documentation of Buy American provision was reviewed. It is recommended that the documentation be updated to include

language defining “significantly” as it relates to cost of domestic goods.

9. **Reporting and Recordkeeping** – Evidence that reports are submitted and maintained with other program records as required

YES NO

Finding Detail:

10. **School Breakfast Program and Summer Food Service Program Outreach** – Validation that SFA informs families of the availability of breakfasts offered under the School Breakfast Program and meals offered through the Summer Food Service Program

YES NO

Finding Detail:

D. Other Federal Program Reviews

1. **The NSLP Afterschool Snack Service** – Documentation that nutritionally-balanced snacks are served, appropriate educational or enrichment activities are provided and counting and claiming is accurate.

YES NO N/A

Finding Detail:

2. **Seamless Summer Option** – Evidence that the SFA adheres to the same meal service rules and claiming procedures used during the regular school year

YES NO N/A

Finding Detail:

3. **Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program** – Validation that participating schools increase children’s exposure to and consumption of a variety of fruits and vegetables and operate the program as prescribed

YES NO N/A

Finding Detail:

- The program was not implemented at the beginning of the year; the implantation date was December 11, 2017. Use of funds will be monitored.

4. **Special Milk Program** – Documentation that the SFA is operating the program in compliance with regulatory requirements and in accordance with the State Agency approved agreement

YES NO N/A

Finding Detail:

E. Resource Management

- 1. Resource Management** – Validation that SFA ensures the overall financial health of the school food service including non-profit food service account, paid lunch equity, revenue from non-program foods and indirect costs

YES NO

Finding Detail: