

Food Supply Chain Disruptions and National School Lunch Program

Nationwide there is disruption in the food supply chain that is affecting all aspects of foodservice including but not limited to the school segment. This disruption is a fallout from the current global pandemic. This disruption is a direct result of one or more of the following contributing factors

- ❖ Lack of availability of raw ingredients to produce the products
- ❖ Labor – there is simply not enough active workforce to produce the food products and to unload incoming raw and finished products.
- ❖ Transportation – There are insufficient numbers of drivers to haul the food throughout our nation.

These factors will have an impact on the National School Lunch and Breakfast programs in our district and across America. Our School Nutrition department will be working closely with our food distributor to source healthy menu options that meet the federal guidelines for Child Nutrition Programs. However, all meals served at our district are subject to change based on availability, so we are asking you to keep this in mind when review the printed and on-line menus for the upcoming school year.

Some links for points of reference

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/29/economy/truck-driver-shortage-pay-hikes/index.html>

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/29/economy/global-worker-shortage-pandemic-brexit/index.html>

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/supply-chain-woes-come-to-school-cafeterias-11627205402>

<https://www.foodprocessing.com/industrynews/2021/schools-grapple-with-lunch-shortages/>

<https://nbc-2.com/news/local/2021/08/17/lee-county-school-lunches-impacted-by-supply-chain-issues/>