

**State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services  
Governor's Council on Food Security  
Approved Meeting Minutes**

**December 3, 2014**

**Meeting Locations (Videoconferenced)**

Department of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way Suite 303, Carson City NV  
Aging and Disability Services Division, Desert Regional Center, 1391 S Jones, Las Vegas NV

**Members Present**

Kathleen Sandoval	Kenneth Osgood
Donnell Barton	Sarah Adler
Steve Fisher	Jodi Tyson
Guy Hillyer	Mark Walker
Mike Wurm	David Weaver
Cherie Jamason	Mary Wherry for Richard Whitley
Christy McGill	

**Members Absent**

Jim Barbee  
Wendy Baroli  
Amy Hill  
Steve Hill  
Mary Liveratti  
Kevin Hooks  
Adam Kramer  
Dale Erquiaga

**Also Present**

Erin Hasty on behalf of Council Member Dale Erquiaga  
Angela Owings, Food Security Strategist  
Dana Jones and Gloria Sulhoff, DHHS Director's Office, Grants Management Unit

**I. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements**

Council Chair Kathleen Sandoval welcomed the members and opened the meeting at 1:03 pm. Roll call was taken and a quorum was determined to be present.

**II. Public Comment**

Lynn Marcon, a representative from Douglas County Backpack Program provided information about the need for the backpack program for low income children. Ms. Marcon reports that additional food supplied for the weekend improves students test scores, school attendance and promotes higher achievement. Also, there was a seventy-six percent increase in better behavior. The program is volunteer driven and serves 506 children, more than 104,000 pounds of food distributed. Christy McGill thanked Ms. Marcon for the program services as this is a very cost effective mechanism to provide additional meals to hungry children.

**III. Approval of September 30, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Jones, Administrative Assistant, Department of Health and Human Services, noted corrections for the minutes: On page three, item number two, Ms. Jamason's report should be labeled Policy, not Outreach; and on page four, item number four, Education and Donnell Barton's name are both spelled incorrectly. There were no other changes to the minutes.

- Guy Hillyer moved to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2014 Council meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Ken Osgood, and there being no further comments, carried unanimously.

#### **IV. PSA: Food Security in Nevada**

Ms. Sandoval stated that the Department of Agriculture (NDA) funded a PSA to promote awareness about the Governor's Council on Food Security, along with the Buy Nevada promotions. Ms. Sandoval acknowledged Jim Barbee's idea and thanked NDA for funding the project. Ms. Barton will forward the draft to Ms. Owings to send to the Council members.

#### **V. School Breakfast Survey Presentation**

Matt Beltrami, from Share Our Strength, was expected to phone in but had not yet. The Chair tabled this item and moved on to the next agenda item.

#### **VI. Council Member Assignment Reports**

Ms. Jamason introduced two primary policies: Breakfast in the Classroom as Instructional Time and the possibility of data elements added to the School District Accountability Report.

##### Breakfast in the Classroom

This can be implemented with one of two options - to include legislative action or through the Superintendent. Ms. Jamason reports that after four weeks of implementation the teachers love the program. While some have concerns about trash and rodents, it's an education process to deter those types of problems.

There are at least a dozen schools, maybe more in Washoe County School District, that have implemented Breakfast in the Classroom. The School Board passed a policy about five years ago to include Breakfast in Classroom as part of the regular school day. A high percentage of students in those schools are on free or reduced lunch.

Ms. Jamason stated that there is a considerable perceived objection about taking up instructional time. Shane Piccinini reported that the Chicago and Trenton school districts and the Maryland State Board of Education introduced the program by school policy, while in Colorado and Texas school districts, the program was implemented through legislation.

There was discussion about how the process would be implemented in Nevada schools. Mr. Hillyer asked for verification that Superintendent. Erquiaga is in support of this program and the process in the Clark County School District. Ms. Jamason confirmed that Mr. Erquiaga is in support of the program, and reminded the Council that there is no intent to make it mandatory, only to remove the administrative barriers. Ms. McGill inquired about the availability of resources to support the program. Ms. Barton stated that reimbursements for meals are available; also, the Dairy Council has offered \$4,000 to assist with the implementation of the project, by school.

##### School District Accountability Report

The purpose of this recommendation would be to track participation rates for the various programs offering school breakfast. It would be best to publish data and information retroactive three years. Serving Breakfast in the Classroom takes thirty percent less time than serving Breakfast After the Bell. Breakfast in the Classroom would be the best use of time. Direct Certification offers the additional benefit of higher participation rates, as indicated in the handout in the meeting materials.

Mr. Fisher offered to assist with Medicaid and Direct Certification. SNAP and TANF information could be sent to NDA from DWSS. Ms. Barton added that a list of migrant/homeless students could be obtained from the school district, not the Department of Education. Mr. Fisher and Ms. Barton agreed to provide more information to the Council from their respective departments.

Ms. Sandoval stated that Ms. Hasty will provide more information about policy and legislative options and the Council will move ahead to that agenda item.

Ms. Sandoval summarized the discussion to accept some of the policies as written and edit the legislative suggestions to move forward with a motion later in the meeting.

Ms. Hasty presented several policy and legislative options to improve participation with School Breakfast. Mr. Erquiaga was unable to attend the meeting and supports the options Ms. Hasty supplied. There was discussion among the Council that two of the policies would work for Nevada along with a legislative option that would need support from the Governor's Office.

- Ms. Adler moved for Council recommendation of the following:
  - NDE Superintendent to mandate that Breakfast in the Classroom be considered instructional time.
  - Mandate schools with a 70% free or reduced lunch (FRL) population serve Breakfast After the Bell for middle schools and high schools, and implement Breakfast in the Classroom in elementary schools.
  - Require the Department of Education to report breakfast and lunch participation rates as part of the school accountability reports (NRS 385.3469, et seq).

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hillyer, and there being no further discussion, carried unopposed.

Next Steps:

Ms. Sandoval, Ms. Hasty and Mr. Erquiaga will meet with the Governor's Chief of Staff, Mike Willden, to decide whether to make this one of the Governor's five bills.

- Ms. Barton moved to recommend that the NDA, Food and Nutrition Division Services work with DWSS and NDE, Child and Family Services to ensure all available direct certification opportunities are fully implemented, and that any and all direct certified projects that extend direct certification of eligible children to federal nutrition programs will be applied for and implemented. Dr. Osgood seconded the motion which carried unopposed.

Ms. Barton mentioned that there has been some activity by NDA to host a School Breakfast Challenge in Nevada. Philadelphia shared its best practices and tools to provide a website for Nevada with videos, informational documents and the use of effective webinars. The Nevada School Breakfast Challenge website is up and running.

Dr. Osgood and Mr. Hillyer suggested that Superintendent Erquiaga identify a Champion for each school district, or smaller jurisdiction, to increase participation in the school breakfast challenge. The Council could then offer tools for the Champion to achieve greater results. Ms. Sandoval will include support

activities into the conversation with Mr. Willden to promote the Challenge to increase school breakfast participation.

- Ms. Sandoval moved to recommend that NDE Superintendent identify school breakfast Champions by school or district and the Council will provide the tools for the champions to succeed. All will collaborate to roll out the School Breakfast Challenge. Ms. Wherry seconded the motion which carried unopposed.

Ms. Tyson provided an update regarding school breakfast outreach. A small group researched strategies and concluded that the most effective approach would be to coordinate outreach strategies with the Council's other school breakfast recommendations. Now that policies have been adopted, the group will revisit this list, prioritize, and put together a timeframe to present at the Council's next meeting.

Ms. Tyson also noted that Three Square is applying for a grant through Share Our Strength, a social innovation fund, an opportunity for only ten communities in the U.S. Ms. Sandoval mentioned that it would be important to know if the State is applying, and sent an email to Sheila Lambert in the State Grant Office to inquire. Ms. Tyson requested a letter of support from the Council.

- Ms. Sandoval moved to recommend Council support of Three Square's grant application to Share Our Strength, contingent on whether the State is also applying, and pending approval by DAG, as this topic is not included on the agenda as an action item. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barton and carried unopposed, with Ms. Tyson abstaining from the vote due to her employment at Three Square.

Ms. Owings introduced the matrix provided by the Office of Food Security to outline the Council's School Breakfast Discussion Recommendations compared to the State of Nevada Food Security Strategic Plan. As a reminder, the matrix only represents one goal of the strategic plan. Ms. Adler recommended that a column be added to measure performance towards the goal, and then identify the data systems that can feed accomplishment data into the plan to provide regular updates. Ms. McGill suggested adding a "data map" of what is collected and from where, and a legend. Ms. Sandoval inquired about baseline data. Ms. Owings stated that there is access to baseline data, and Ms. McGill suggested retrieving baseline data from the Food Security Strategic Plan. Ms. Sandoval made a request that Ms. Owings provide that data prior to the next meeting so the Council can set targets.

#### Next Steps:

Ms. Sandoval appointed a team to include Ms. Barton, Ms. Owings and Ms. Sandoval to assist with the task of compiling baseline data.

Sheila Lambert responded to Ms. Sandoval's email, stating that the Grant Office was not applying for the Share Our Strength grant, and that they would assist Three Square by providing any support. Ms. Owings will inquire with the DAG immediately after the adjournment of the meeting.

Ms. McGill provided an update for Best Practices. Ms. McGill complimented Ms. Tyson for the great update on Outreach. The School Breakfast Challenge will be an important component for "case of change" and the community will need to understand why breakfast is so important for student achievement.

Ms. Barton forwarded the link to the School Breakfast Challenge webpage to Ms. Owings and the link will be forwarded to the council members. Ms. McGill noted the importance of involving youth to roll out the School Breakfast Challenge.

**VII. Public Comment**

None

**VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjourn**

- Dr. Osgood moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cherie Jamason and carried unopposed. The meeting adjourned at 4:01 pm.