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Enactment Number 13-0648

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**OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT***Community Schools, Thriving Students*

Memo

To Board of Education

From Tony Smith, Ph.D., Superintendent
 Vernon Hal, Deputy Superintendent, Business & Operations *veh*
 Jennifer Le Barre, Director of Nutrition Services

Board Meeting Date

Subject Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Oakland Unified School District Nutrition Services and School Food FOCUS

Action Requested Approval by the Board of Education of Resolution No.1213 - 0130 approving Memorandum of Understanding between Oakland Unified School District and School Food FOCUS for the National Procurement Initiative effective April 1, 2013.

Background Oakland Unified School District has been in partnership with School Food FOCUS for the last five (5) years working on procurement change. School Food FOCUS is an organization with the main goal of improving the nutritional quality of school meals through changing procurement practices of the largest districts across the United States. Oakland USD has been able to improve procurement practices based on School Food FOCUS research.

Discussion The National Procurement Initiative is an expansion of the current partnership. Through the initiative, School Food FOCUS will establish a procurement research partnership between Oakland USD, San Diego USD, and Riverside USD. The ultimate goal of the partnership is to purchase California raised and processed anti-biotic free chicken for use in each school district's meal program.

The partnership has been funded by The California Endowment.

Recommendation Approval by the Board of Education of Resolution No.1213 - 0130 approving Memorandum of Understanding between OUSD Nutrition Services and School Food FOCUS.

Fiscal Impact None

Attachments Resolution No.1213 - 0130



National Procurement Initiative (NPI) Letter of Agreement

The FOCUS National Procurement Initiative (NPI) engages school districts to redirect purchasing practices to access more wholesome food, building communities of practice that connect school food service professionals and their partners with technical support and a broad spectrum of food supply chain actors. In its first year the NPI will work on chicken, the leading school food protein, to shift supply and procurement towards more healthful, regional and/or sustainably produced chicken products.

Procurement change spans many practices across the school sector including budgeting, menuing, food specification development, food safety, operations and staffing, kitchen facilities, supplier/vendor relationships, contracting, and management. That is, procurement change is inherently hands-on, not theoretical. The National Procurement Initiative will use a *collective impact*¹ approach to connect a broad cross-sector of stakeholders in the food system, the regulatory environment, and the not-for-profit community to the school districts.

National Procurement Initiative participants will develop a community of practice that enables group learning, sharing of technical information and access to data, relationships, and ideas that are not typically available to school district personnel. The role of FOCUS staff is to facilitate and help inform the process in an organized and useful manner such that districts, their partners, and other organizations develop sustained capacity to continue working together to create further school food system change.

FOCUS considered the following factors for participation of school districts and their partners in the NPI:

1. Food Service Director and staff commitment to participating in this intensive procurement change process
2. District willingness and ability to provide FOCUS with data needed for benchmarking, analysis, and impact evaluation as well as the supply chain discovery processes
3. Community partnership that includes longevity, relevance, a defined scope of collaborative work, ability to work together, and a commitment to the ideals that FOCUS is working towards

Participants in the NPI will complete a Baseline Chicken Survey to provide key data that allows the NPI to demonstrate demand for chicken that is healthier on the plate and in the environment and to track progress towards these goals.

We want to be clear about the projected benefits the NPI offers school districts and their partners through the resources and relationships of School Food FOCUS (what districts and their partners “get”) as well as our expectations of NPI participants and what districts and their partners “give”). This agreement outlines the Give-Get exchanges between school district staff, community partners, and FOCUS.

THE “GIVE”: School Districts and their chosen partners participating in the School Food FOCUS National Procurement Initiative will:

1. Sign the FOCUS Stakeholder pledge

¹ John Kania and Mark Kramer, Stanford Social Innovation Review, Winter 2011

2. Attend in-person and virtual meetings for the National Procurement Initiative
3. Work collaboratively to reach consensus on priority food items and specifications for those items
4. Participate as needed in supply chain research and discovery
5. Provide specific procurement-related data needed to track the NPI change process
6. Share procurement policy and related documents with FOCUS' research partner Harrison Institute
7. Commit staff time to complete tasks identified by the Chicken Work Group
8. Agree to work with suppliers to streamline procurement of NPI-specified foods
9. School districts will menu NPI priority food items selected and specified with agreed upon frequency
10. District Partners will support School Districts' implementation of NPI procurement change goals

THE "GET": FOCUS provides to NPI participating districts and their chosen partners:

1. Facilitation of the NPI community of practice as a safe and supportive place for peer learning and support, problem identification, and shared solution seeking
2. Development of a broader community of practice with school food service peers, district partners, regional and national allies, and representatives from industry, NGOs, and governmental agencies
3. Subject to available funding, assistance for School District personnel and staff from their selected partners to attend key meetings
4. Alignment of multiple districts and their partners around procurement goals and the leveraging of collective market power in conversations with industry, supply chain actors, and USDA
5. Development of resources, support, and visibility locally and nationally
6. Supply chain/procurement policy research and analysis that informs shared decision-making
7. Subject to available resources, legal research and district-specific recommendations for definitions of local and geographic preferences in bids and contracts
8. Integration of work on a regional and national level with divisions of USDA including FNS, AMS, and Rural Development as well as state and regional agencies
9. Real-time communication about work and progress on specifications of selected food items

FOCUS recognizes the power of measuring progress in this in-depth supply chain work. Documenting procurement change and its impact requires benchmark data. Ongoing data collection for specific selected food items will be used to develop specifications, procedures, and practices that will be shared within the NPI as well as with other FOCUS stakeholders, partners, and ultimately school districts throughout the nation.

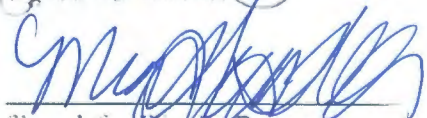
This is an expression of collaborative intent, not a legally binding document. By signing, I agree to strive to adhere to the values and principles held by the membership of the School Food FOCUS Regional Learning Lab.


Signed for District

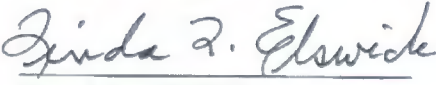
2/19/13
Date


Signed for District Partner


2/14/2013
Date

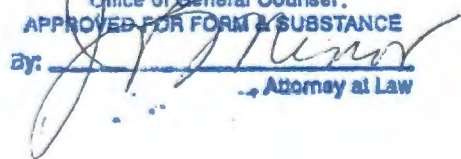

Signed for District Partner

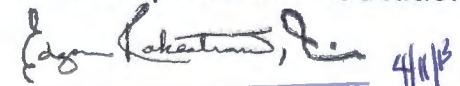
3/28/13
Date


Signed for FOCUS

2/25/13
Date


David Kakishiba
President, Board of Education

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT²
Office of General Counsel.
APPROVED FOR FORM & SUBSTANCE
By: 
Attorney at Law


Edgar Rakestraw, Jr., Secretary
Board of Education

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By: 