

# Lunch Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2019

## Meeting Notes

### Attending

Colleen Murray (Superintendent)  
Jennifer Bobock (Nurse)  
Sara Patterson (Chartwells) Phone Call-In  
Peter Ferrara (Chartwells)  
Donna Ricciardi (BOE Lunch Program Coordinator)  
Andrea Hubbard (Teacher)  
James Bruni (Teacher)  
Rajni Mehta (Parent)  
Marie Bartels (Parent)  
Julia Nickle (Grade 4 Student)  
Matthew Crisci (Grade 4 Student)  
Timmy Crisci (Grade 1 Student)  
Beth Sharkey (Teacher)  
Cole Lassen (Grade 4 Student)  
Natalie Dorais (Grade 3 Student)

### Absent

Toni Green (Parent)  
Fred Valfer, (Chartwells)  
Mary Grace Crisci (Parent)  
Namita Wijesekera (BOE Member/Pediatrician)  
Bob Davis (Principal)  
Phoebe Bartels (Grade 2 Student)

### Call to Order

1. Mrs. Murray called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m.

### Approval of Minutes

1. **Motion** by Marie Bartels, seconded by James Bruni to approve the January 30, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. *The motion carries (all) yes, (0) no, (0) abstain, (6) absent.*

### Agenda

#### 1. **New Guidelines**

Sara Patterson called in and gave the Advisory Board an update on new USDA/State guidelines which provide more flexibility. Districts no longer need to apply for the Whole Grain Waiver. 51% of the products must be whole grain. The new guidelines also allow districts to serve 1% flavored milk. There have been no change to the guidelines regarding sodium, although talked about. Some members on the committee thought these new guidelines are a step back. Peter Ferrara proposed that the district consider the change for pizza crust and pasta. The consensus of the group was to charge Food Service and Student

Focus Group with planning a taste test in the fall to gather data on student choice. Sara Patterson said she can do a product comparison with the current pizza crust/pasta and enriched pizza crust/pasta. She will share the nutritional values for both. Peter said the prices should be similar.

**2. Audit Update**

Donna Ricciardi was introduced to the group as the new BOE Lunch Program Coordinator, and she provided the committee with an update on the recent State Audit. The few recommendations made by the State were clerical in nature. Chartwells and the District worked collaboratively to take corrective action.

**3. Menu Discussion**

Mrs. Murray reminded members, per the State, that the role of the School Lunch Advisory Board is oversight of menu planning and agendas should stay focused on that role. Teachers reported that menu choices remain consistent. Colleen Murray reported that school lunch sales are up with an increase of approximately 27 meals/day. Matthew Crisci suggested that the Student Focus Group ask students what their favorite vegetables are. Marie Bartels suggested seasoning to make vegetables more appealing. A suggestion was made to provide dressing for students to dip raw vegetables. Chartwells will consider suggestions. A discussion on cut up vs whole apples took place. It was determined that it is not feasible nor cost effective to cut up apples (in-house). Chartwell reported that bagged cut up apples are offered from time to time depending on availability on commodity list.

**4. War on Waste**

Beth Sharkey gave a report on the Green Team's efforts to address food waste. Baseline data was collected in May using the Smarter Lunchroom Scorecard, and shared with the committee. It was noted from observation that trash included fruits and vegetables. Ms. Sharkey will work with the Green Team in the Fall to plan a War on Waste initiative with a competition and goals for increased awareness. Rajni Mehta expressed her concerns regarding food waste in the cafeteria and will work with Beth Sharkey to help with observations in the cafeteria.

**5. Communication**

All agreed that communication efforts have improved with the publication of the monthly menus and newsletter.

**6. Student Focus Group**

Student Ambassadors provided feedback on menu, meals and production, They will work with Ms. Sharkey and the Green Team on the Waste War and with Mrs. Murray and Chartwells on the Pizza/Pasta Taste Test in the Fall.

7. **Membership**

Colleen asked members to contact her if they did not plan on continuing their participation on the School Lunch Advisory Board next year.

**Future agenda items**

- Approval of the May 15, 2019 minutes
- Marie Bartels report on ingredients

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 8:30 am.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 7:45 am**

Colleen will send a calendar invite today and a reminder with agenda in October 2019.