

27. Authorization to Purchase Subsidized Food Products From Approved United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Processors (\$6,500,000)

## **Action Item - 27**

**Board of Education Meeting Date:** 5/29/2025

**Title:** Authorization to Purchase Subsidized Food Products From Approved United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Processors (\$6,500,000)

### **Action Under Consideration:**

The Administration recommends that the Board of Education authorize purchases by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, subject to funding, as follows:

#### **With:**

Brookwood Farms Inc.  
Buena Vista Foods  
Cherry Central Coop  
Goodman Food Products dba Don Lee Farms  
ES Foods  
High Liner Foods  
Let's Do Lunch, Inc. dba Integrated Food Service  
Hormel Food Sales, LLC  
JTM Provisions Co. Inc.  
Michael Foods Inc.  
Nardone Bros. Baking Co. Inc.  
Peterson Farms  
S & F Foods  
Schwan's Food Service Inc.  
Tasty Brands, LLC  
Tyson Foods Inc.  
The Share Food Program Inc.

#### **Purpose:**

Purchase USDA Foods from authorized processors with federal grant entitlement allocations for use in all student meal programs

**Start Date:** 7/1/2025

**End Date:** 6/30/2026

**Compensation not to exceed:** \$6,500,000

#### **Location(s):**

All Full-Service School Locations

**Description:****Why is this contract needed?**

On an annual basis, via a competitive federal procurement process, USDA contracts with various food processors to deliver finished products such as beef patties, luncheon meats, chicken products, fruits, and vegetables, available at a discount for use in the student meal programs. The District needs the authorization to purchase available foods through the USDA Foods program. Students attend taste test events and complete menu surveys to help the Office of Food Services select food products for the district-wide menu. Manufacturer selection is based on student input, a competitive procurement process, and compliance with the federal meal pattern for meal reimbursement. All contractors authorized by this Action Item are USDA-approved processors.

**How is this work connected to the District's plan to achieve Goals & Guardrails?**

This contract supports Guardrail 1 to ensure our students receive nutritious, healthy breakfast, lunch, and after-school meals each school day.

**Does this Action Item support a specific strategy/intervention identified in the Strategic Plan?**

This action item supports Strategic Action 1.10: Implement Breakfast After the Bell at all schools and offer sufficient, healthy, and appetizing food during appropriate meal times to all students. Various breakfast foods will be purchased through this Action Item.

**How will the success of this contract be measured?**

Success will be measured through student product acceptance, product availability, vendor delivery performance throughout the school year, and favorable program audit results from the Office of the City Controller of the City of Philadelphia, the PA Department of Education, Division of Food and Nutrition, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**If this is the continuation of a contract, how has success been measured in the past and what specific information do we have to show that it was successful?**

Success will be measured through student product acceptance, product availability, vendor delivery performance throughout the school year, and favorable program audit results from the Office of the City Controller of the City of Philadelphia, the PA Department of Education, Division of Food and Nutrition, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**When applicable, is this an evidence-based strategy? If so, what evidence exists to support this approach?**

Student meal participation data, menu item rating results, and favorable program audit results.

**When applicable, was a larger community of District community members and/or stakeholders involved in this selection process? If so, what groups and how?**

Students attend taste test events and complete menu surveys to help the department

select food products for the district-wide menu. Manufacturer selection is based on student input and compliance with the federal meal pattern for meal reimbursement.

**Related resolution(s)/approval(s):**

April 25, 2024; #25

**Funding Source(s):** FY26 Cafeteria Fund

**Office Originating Request:**

Operations - Food Services

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