School Food Advisory Board: Feedback Classifications

Background:

On March 14, 2018, a School Food Advisory Board (SFAB) meeting was held that captured community feedback on the state of school food in two ways:

1. Gallery walk containing posters with guided questions where attendees could place a sticky note with their comments; and
2. Small Group Breakout Discussion where members of the SFAB committee scribed notes.

This feedback was gathered, organized, and categorized to better drive actions for upcoming meetings. This document is intended to provide definitions for the various categories created.

Primary Category Definitions:

**Cafeteria Environment:** The lunchroom atmosphere and strategies geared toward making it a place where students want to be. More specifically it can refer to meal times, culture of adults in the cafeteria, visual aesthetics of the space, etc.

**Cultural Relevance:** Providing food that is culturally appropriate for the customer.

**Engagement:** This is meant to refer to action that can help contribute to the betterment of the food service program. This also includes how businesses, parents, students and school-based staff can get involved, including learning and identifying different programs/partnerships.

**Food (Availability/Quality):** The production and accessibility of foods served in the cafeteria. This includes the appearance, texture, and flavor of the food served. It differs from "nutrition" in that it focuses on taste and external factors rather than nutritional components.

**Nutrition Education:** Any opportunity geared towards educating students on the benefits of eating healthy like farm to school initiatives and instruction based projects.

**Nutrition/Compliance:** The value of nutrients and other substances in food as it relates to health and well-being. This category should be used for feedback that includes "healthy" or “nutritious” and not "tasty".

**Operations:** The logistics for providing school food, including meal line process, preparing the food, and service.

Secondary Category Definitions:

**Budget:** Items with financial implications, such as requests for more funding.
Communicate Programs: aimed at capturing feedback where explanation/marketing of current programs would be useful.

Communicate Regulations: aimed at capturing feedback where an explanation of federal and local regulations would be useful.

Critical Stakeholders: individuals whose presence would be beneficial to the SFAB.

Equity: the quality of fair practices in school food operations.

Food Alternatives: substitutes for food currently offered.

Food Preparation: the process for how meals are cooked and served.

Increasing Participation: actions aimed at increasing student involvement in school food.

Menu: ideas around changing school food offerings.

New Idea: initiatives not currently occurring.

Partnerships: associations that are involved with school food.

SFAB Logistics: any action that could improve the logistics of the SFAB meetings.

Waste: mostly referring to the leftovers of the school meal program and ways to reduce it.