

FRESH BITES NEWSLETTER

November 2020



With the holidays approaching, you can give your students a special treat and a bit of tradition and normalcy with our holiday-themed lunch. We've created a menu day comprised of:

- Shredded Turkey & Gravy
- Green Beans
- Candied Sweet Potatoes
- Pumpkin Bread
- Cranberries

And, of course, we've provided recipes and reports to make it easy to treat your students with this special meal. Enjoy!

Download all the files you need:

[K-5](#) | [6-8](#) | [K-8](#) | [9-12](#)

[Editable Food Production Report](#)



"NutriStudents K-12 has saved me so much time, energy, and stress. You took such a huge burden off my shoulders. I don't know what I would have done without you. You guys have been amazing!"

Cecilia Simmons
Sterling School District
Sterling, ND

NutriStudents K-12®
Menu Freedom. Tools for Success.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This month's issue of Fresh Bites is full of freebies to help you continue to feed kids in challenging times. Take advantage of these offers today!

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BTS Guide Facilitates Smooth Transition to Distance Learning

The NutriStudents K-12 Back-to-School Guide is not just for back-to-school time. It can help you shift to a new service model or improve upon what you're already doing.

If your district is moving to hybrid or distance learning due to rising COVID-19 rates, tap into this free resource to quickly adapt your foodservice procedures. If you're seeking ways to improve your COVID-19 operations, the BTS Guide can also help you improve upon what you're already doing, even if you're not changing service models.

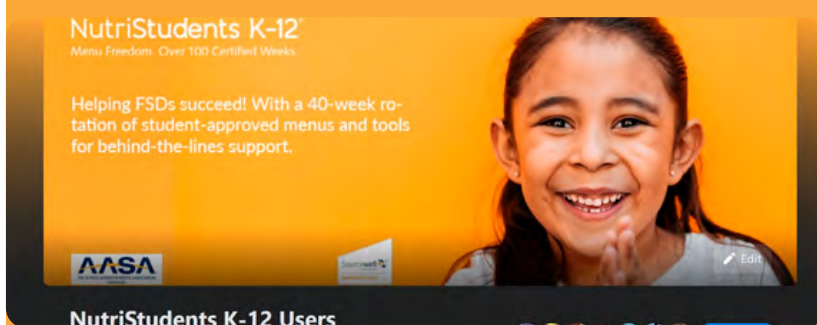
It includes:

1. Step-by-step instructions for successfully providing meals under any socially distant scenario.
2. A complete COVID-19 Safety Preparedness Plan template, you can quickly adapt to your program or consult for safety protocols you may want to implement.
3. Ideas for expanding school wellness plans to include emotional wellbeing.

The free Back-to-School Guide, as well as our [free COVID-19 Emergency Menus](#), will remain available for download as long as they're needed. Resources such as these are just one way NutriStudents K-12 helps FSDs succeed!



NutriStudents K-12 users! Join our private Facebook group.



Here's another benefit of becoming a NutriStudents K-12 user: our [private Facebook group](#), where you can share ideas, help one another overcome challenges and learn to use our system to its fullest. If you've been intimidated by national Facebook groups for school foodservice, you'll appreciate sharing ideas with other FSDs at smaller, generally more rural, districts. Click the link and request to join today. (We will confirm you're a user before allowing access to the group.)

Get In Touch!
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[Fresh Bites Blog](#)
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New Issue of *Cafeteria Connection*: School Meal Safety

Long before the coronavirus and COVID-19 impacted our daily lives, school foodservice programs, caterers and restaurants had strict and extensive food handling and sanitation procedures to protect against salmonella, e.coli, listeria and other food-borne illnesses. Those procedures have been amplified to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus. In our latest issue of *Cafeteria Connection*, we aim to help your parents understand that school meals have been, and always will be, safe for their children.

You can download this issue now by signing up for a [FREE subscription to Cafeteria Connection](#). Upon subscribing, you'll have instant access to our current library of issues (listed below) and you will receive an email once a month when we add a new issue.

You can add your school/district imprint or logo at the top left of each issue to make it yours. Our current library includes:

- Bag lunch vs. school lunch - which is better?
- Farm to school movement brings fresher foods to schools
- Helping kids choose 'smart snacks'
- Salad bars - a bountiful buffet
- School breakfast - a time-saving, nutritious choice
- Broadening appeal of school lunch entices students
- Kids' summer routines can include regular healthy meals
- Mealtime is a Time for Learning
- Ending the food fights; Creating meals kids love
- Free resources make at-home nutrition education easy
- Food & fun to support children's emotional wellbeing
- Extensive procedures ensure safety of school meals

Put *Cafeteria Connection* into your marketing mix starting today! Post it to your website and share the link on social media. Include it in your e-newsletters and insert it into meal bundles going home with hybrid and distance learners. The time investment is minimal and the potential payoff significant.

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Cafeteria Connection

Connecting you to your child's school lunchroom

Extensive procedures ensure safety of school meals



Long before the coronavirus and COVID-19 impacted our daily lives, school foodservice programs, caterers and restaurants had strict and extensive food handling and sanitation procedures in place to protect against salmonella.

Outside resources to support your marketing

We've expanded our roundup of "grab & go" marketing tools to help you increase participation. No Kid Hungry's School Meal Toolkit is now among the linked resources in this blog post. If you know of others we can add to the list below, please email them to customerservice@NutriStudentsK-12.com.

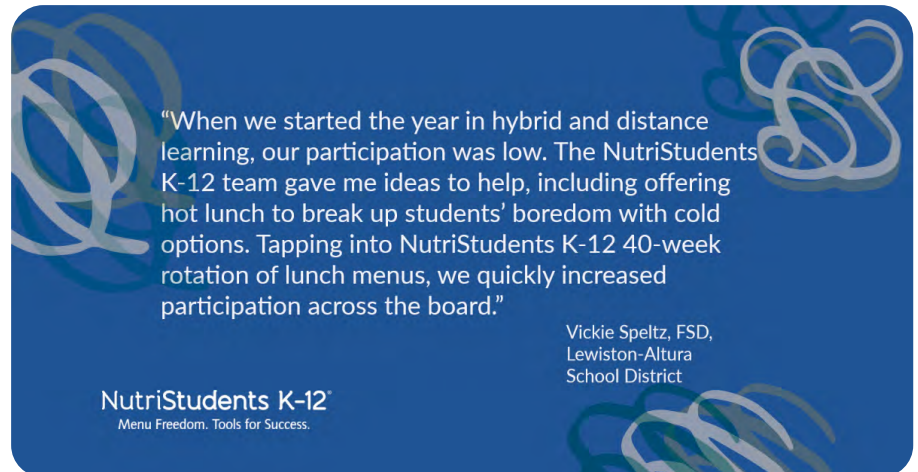
General Mills recently released [infographics](#), [a video](#) and [social media graphics](#) in both English and Spanish to help #SupportSchoolMeals. The materials highlight the availability of free meals for all students regardless of income eligibility and the benefits to families, schools and the community.

No Kid Hungry has an entire [school meal marketing toolkit](#) at your disposal for free. It includes flyers, social media posts and images, letters to parents, and calling script. All materials are in English and Spanish.

School Nutrition Association created a flyer stressing the safety and nutritional value of school meals offered during COVID-19. Download the flyer in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

Tyson Foods also offers off-the-shelf activity sheets and social media resources as well as customizable posters (for Tyson customers) to support your marketing and nutrition education. It posts to social media with the hashtag #FeedingTheFuture. Need help getting started with social media? Check out Tyson's [social media toolkit](#).

USDA Team Nutrition offers many resources to market school meals. While not specific to the COVID-19 climate we're in, [these resources](#) can help raise awareness for the healthful and convenience benefits of school breakfast and lunch. There are also [resources for CACFP operators](#). Games and activities sheets can easily be shared with parents for use in distance learning. Materials for both school meals and CACFP are available in English and Spanish.



"We're getting positive feedback on our new menus from NutriStudents K-12. Kids are loving the food and staff are eating in the cafeteria more."

Wayne Stephens
Foodservice Director
Brandon-Evansville ISD

NutriStudents K-12
Menu Freedom. Over 100 Certified Weeks.

