

Introductions

Joe Arvia, Panelist - Senior Vice President, OrganicLife, LLC



Erica Arlinsky, Panelist - Executive Vice President, OrganicLife, LLC



Haley Chavez, Panelist

- Regional Dietitian - Midwest, Chartwells K12



Matthew Glanzman, Panelist

- *Assistant Director of Finance and Operations, North Chicago CUSD 187*



Wendy Sedwick, Panelist

- *Coordinator of Business Services, CUSD 303, St. Charles, IL*



Michelle Swanson, Panelist

- *Head Bookkeeper, Woodridge Elementary, SD 68*



Jillian Scholl, Moderator - *Executive Vice President, OrganicLife, LLC*



X #iasboAC26



Food Service Panel Discussion

Panelist Introductions

Menti.com Poll

How is your Food Service Program Operated?

X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY

2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Audits

CEP

Local Foods

Buy American

Summer Meals

What would you like to discuss today?

Commodities

Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program

Wellness

X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY

2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Buy American

- ***Domestic commodity or product*** means (A) An agricultural commodity that is produced in the United States; and (B) A food product that is processed in the United States substantially using agricultural commodities that are produced in the United States.
- ***Substantially using agriculture commodities that are produced in the United States*** means over 51 percent of a food product must consist of agricultural commodities that were grown domestically.
- A ***meal component*** means one of the food groups which comprise reimbursable meals. The meal components are fruits, vegetables, grains, meats/meat alternates, and fluid milk. **A meal component is considered an agricultural commodity.**

Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Programs

- DOD Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
- Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System (FFAVORS)
- Local



X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY 

 2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Community Eligibility Program CEP

CEP is an alternative to collecting, approving, and verifying household eligibility applications for free and reduced price eligible students in high poverty local educational agencies (LEAs) for schools participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

The Online CEP Evaluation and Application Module remains open for evaluation year round. The SY 26-27 CEP application is open from April 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026.

Step One of the CEP application process is to secure an April 1 enrollment file, ensuring that all NSLP/SBP students are included in the template format here [Sample Template File](#), ISBE team members are available for technical assistance if needed. contact them at cnp@isbe.net or (800) 545-7892.

X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY

 2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE



Summer Meals

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) was instituted to provide nutritious meals to children during the summer months when school is not in session. The program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

Sponsoring organizations include:

- Public or private non-profit local education agencies;
- Entities of state, local, municipal, or county government;
- Residential camps; and
- Private nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status.



An alternative to the SFSP for providing meals to your children in the summer months is the Seamless Summer Option. This program is available to local education agencies that already participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or School Breakfast Program (SBP). Some school food service authorities feel the Seamless Summer Option better meets their needs and requires less paperwork and monitoring requirements than the SFSP.

SSO vs. SFSP

X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY

2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Commodities

The ISBE Nutrition Department is responsible for the administration of the federally funded Food Distribution Program, providing approximately \$60,000,000 worth of USDA Foods to Illinois schools annually

There are 3 options for spending Food Distribution Program funds:

1. USDA Foods
 - a. Illinois Commodity System (ICS)
 - b. Brown Box
2. Department of Defense (DOD)
 - a. Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
 - b. FFAVORS
3. Diversion to Processor
 - a. NOI
 - b. ProcessorLink or K12

ProcessorLink™



K12™ Foodservice

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Nutrition-Programs-Food-Distribution.aspx>



X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY

2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Local Food Programs

It is up to you to define what local means for your program, and there are many options! Local for one program operator might mean within the county, while local for another might include the entire State and even adjacent States. Definitions of local can vary depending on the season, type of product, and may change by program or event.



When planning how to integrate local items into meals, start by reviewing your menus to see what local foods you are already serving. Talking with suppliers and checking packaging and invoices for the city or State of origin may reveal that some menu items are already local. The next step is to determine how to feature additional local products. Here are several ideas for incorporating local items:



X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY 

 2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Wellness Policies

This final rule requires all local educational agencies that participate in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs to meet expanded local school wellness policy requirements consistent with the requirements set forth in section 204 of the Healthy, Hunger- Free Kids Act of 2010.

The final rule requires each local educational agency to establish minimum content requirements for the local school wellness policies, ensure stakeholder participation in the development and updates of such policies, and periodically assess and disclose to the public schools' compliance with the local school wellness policies.

These regulations are expected to result in local school wellness policies that strengthen the ability of a local educational agency to create a school nutrition environment that promotes students' health, well-being, and ability to learn. In addition, these regulations will increase transparency for the public with regard to school wellness policies and contribute to integrity in the school nutrition program.

X #iasprAGPS

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY 

 2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Food Service Audits

Administrative Review

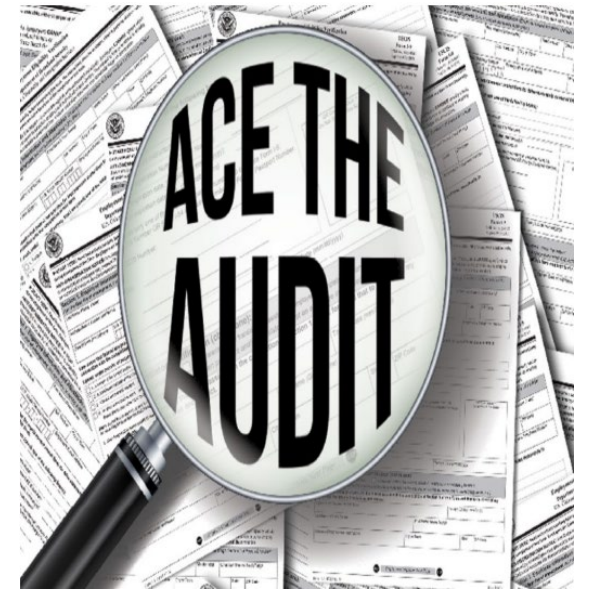
The Administrative Review is an assessment conducted by the Illinois States Board of Education (ISBE) of the School Food Authority's (SFA) administration of the NSLP and SBP, and other school nutrition programs. The objectives of the Administrative are to determine whether the SFA meets program requirements, provide technical assistance, secure any needed corrective action, and assess fiscal action, if applicable.

Procurement Review

Procurement means the process of obtaining goods and/or services in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

Resource Management Review

- Maintenance of Non-Profit School Foodservice Account
- Paid Lunch Equity (PLE)
- Revenue from Nonprogram Foods
- Indirect Costs



X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY 

 2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Presenters:

MODERATOR INFO:

Jillian Scholl, Executive Vice President; OrganicLife, LLC - (708) 925-6897; jschool@organiclifeusa.com

PANELISTS INFO:

Joe Arvia, Senior Vice President: OrganicLife, LLC - (817) 372-9535; jarvia@organiclifeusa.com

Erica Arlinsky, Executive Vice President: OrganicLife, LLC - (847) 687-2029; earlinsky@organiclifeusa.com

Haley Chavez, Regional Dietitian - Midwest: Chartwells K12 - (765) 427-7396; haley.chavez@compass-usa.com

Matthew Glanzman, Assistant Director of Finance and Operations; North Chicago CUSD 187
(847) 775-1332; matt.glanzman@gmail.com

Wendy Sedwick, Coordinator of Business Services; Community Unit School District 303 -
(331) 228-4927; wendy.sedwick@d303.org

Michelle Swanson, Head Bookkeeper; Woodridge Elementary SD 68 - (630) 795-6824; swansonm@woodridge68.org

X #iasboAC26

LEADING WITH
EMPATHY 

 2026
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE