

E.17 Addendum

Potential FSMCs should address the following in their response:

*** Capacity for growth through Interschool Agreements**

There is potential for interschool agreements for food service with area districts in LEARN's capacity as a RESC. The successful FSMC should be prepared and committed to working with area districts in this capacity.

*** Should the need arise in the future due to pandemic related school closures, the successful FSMC should have a plan in place for a "To Go" Meals Service model.**

*** Eco-Friendly sustainability.**

LEARN SFA is committed to using products that promote eco-friendly sustainability. Our cafeterias strive to use reusable service ware and utensils when appropriate. When disposable products are necessary, our goal is to use products that are recyclable and/or compostable. We are a Styrofoam free district.

*** Growing our Farm to School Initiative through continued relationships with local farms.**

LEARN SFA looks forward to strengthening our Farm to School Initiative in the coming years and using more locally grown products, including products potentially grown in our school gardens. As an example, we recently purchased claytonia from a local farm and served it as a tasting event at Regional Multicultural Magnet School, and the students all loved it. FSMC will procure at least 10% of produce used from CT and regional farms and will provide monthly reports on how they are meeting this procurement requirement.

*** Provide specific examples of how FSMC would provide food for diverse populations.**

LEARN SFA expects the FSMC proposals to provide specific examples of how they would provide food for diverse populations. As an example, the FSMC should be well versed in preparing Spanish/Mexican and Asian cuisines. LEARN would like to continue growing our vegetarian/vegan food choices and expects the successful FSMC to have vegetarian/vegan options available daily - hot and cold preferred. Examples of plant-based foods that will be included in the cycle menu will be expected. The successful FSMC should be committed to understanding diverse cultures and what foods are potentially pleasing to school-aged children. For example, FSMC should offer taste tests of foods from various cultures from time to time and incorporate student/parent requests for diverse items gained from our School Food Authority Board meetings whenever possible/feasible.

SFA requires monthly meetings, in person or virtual, between SFA and FSMC. Attendees to include SFA CFO and Magnet Coordinator, FSMC GM and AM, other SFA/FSMC staff as needed per agenda items. Sample meeting agenda included.

LEARN SFA currently has one school that runs a Summer Program as an extension of the NSLP. Ocean Avenue LEARNing Academy typically runs an ESY program for 4-5 weeks throughout July and into the first weeks of August. In reference to 3.15 C- FSMC staff are expected to serve breakfast and lunch as usual during this program.

We are also exploring the possibility of running a closed enrolled SSO site at Regional Multicultural Magnet School for this year, and possibly having this site run as an open SSO site in the future. Approximate dates of this year's summer program at RMMS would start the last week of June and run for 6 weeks, approximately 40-50 children in house. In reference to 3.15 C- FSMC staff are expected to serve breakfast and lunch as usual during this program, and to oversee the day-to-day operations of this program. LEARN staff will provide oversight and be responsible for Onsite Monitoring.

Approximate dates for this year's Summer Program (s):
Ocean Avenue LEARNing Academy: July 1 through August 2, 2024.
Regional Multicultural Magnet School: June 24 through August 2, 2024.

As of February 2024, finalized school calendars for 2024-2025 school year were unavailable for submission. Included in Exhibit G are FY 2023-2024 calendars, and drafts for the 2024-2025 school year. Updated calendars will be forthcoming.

Additional info:

All LEARN sites have kitchens with the exception of Three Rivers Middle College Magnet High School. Meals are currently prepared at Marine Science Magnet High School and delivered to TRMC by a LEARN courier. A LEARN employee will be responsible for delivering these meals to TRMC. 'Photos of LEARN Kitchens' are included.

Currently we have a la carte items available for purchase at Marine Science Magnet High School only, available for purchase daily:

Chips, Cookies \$1.00

Switch juice, carbonated fruit juice, \$1.50

We do not serve caffeine at any level.

We have served very few adult meals, under 200 per year. We have not typically had catering income but would like the FSMC to be open to the possibility of catering in the future and increasing adult options in all of our schools.

Our current FSMC employees do not belong to a union.

Students do on occasion leave campus (i.e. senior privileges) but this is minimal. We do have field trips at times that meals can be needed for.

The SFA does not provide any clerical support to the FSMC for duties performed by the FSMC. As of 2/20/2024, USDA foods for 2024-2025 file is pending CSDE approval. This approved list will be provided when completed.

As of 2/9/2024, our percentages of Free-Directly Certified students are as follows:

School	Total Enrollment	FDC STUDENTS	% FDC students total
TFS	447	236	52.80
RMMS	481	266	55.30
MSMHS	268	60	22.39
TRMC	79	31	39.24
OALA	86	45	52.33

While most of our schools exceed the 25% threshold for CEP, we fall short with an ISP of 75%, which would leave us with a much lower reimbursement rate for 25% of meals served.

As our free directly certified population grows, or if the multiplier ever rises from the current 1.6, we will reassess the viability of participating in the CEP program.

Please see Exhibit A for total free and reduced percentages by school.

We are currently in the preliminary/planning stages of moving The Friendship School to a purchased property in Waterford. Our 5-year strategic plan will include expanding that program from its current PreK model, to include children from infancy (Birth-3 program) through grade 2. Completion of this \$95,000,000 new school is projected for fiscal year 2027-2028, with an eventual enrollment of 574.

Our Regional Multicultural Magnet School will then become a grade 3 through 8 International Baccalaureate Program, which will in turn give us a PreK through high school pathway.

Please use the "Potential *Severe Need Rates 2024-25 Rates Adjusted +5%" listed in Schedule D (and posted below*) - Reimbursement Rates when calculating Schedule E Financial Schedules Operating Statement worksheets.

***PLEASE USE THESE RATES FOR SCHEDULE E:**

<u>School Breakfast Program</u>	Status	Potential *Severe Need Rates 2024-25 Rates Adjusted +5%
	<u>Paid</u>	<u>0.40</u>
	<u>Reduced</u>	<u>2.55</u>
	<u>Free</u>	<u>2.87</u>
<u>School Lunch Program</u>	Status	Potential *Severe Need Rates 2024-25 Rates Adjusted +5%
	<u>Paid</u>	<u>0.44</u>
	<u>Reduced</u>	<u>4.06</u>
	<u>Free</u>	<u>4.48</u>

From the 2021-22 school year on, LEARN has had an Interschool Agreement for Food Service with Goodwin University Magnet School System. That Interschool Agreement will come to an end in June 2024 and will not be renewed.

We have provided information (financials, edit checks) broken down whenever it seemed necessary, particularly in Exhibits B and E.

Overall, for the most part, LEARN students make up approximately 55% of our data, Goodwin 45%.