



Food Service Update

January 23, 2019
Board of Education
Meeting

Food Service Update:

The approach we have taken is to improve the meal service and still remain in the National School Lunch Program.



Student Survey Results

Student Survey results K-8th grade:

Students suggested these menu items, and we have served them at least once:

- Meatball parmesan sandwich
- Taco shells instead of scoops
- Salad bar days
- Different soups

- In addition, we initiated Pizza dippers

Student Survey Results (cont'd):

- Top three lunch items:
 - Pizza
 - Scoops with taco meat
 - French Toast Sticks

Student Survey Results (cont'd):

- 351 responses
- 248 responded they purchase lunch
- 50 % of students purchase 4 - 5 days a week
- 58.5% of students like the taste of the food

Student Survey Results (cont'd):

- Students asked for:
 - Soda (not allowable)
 - Brownies (currently looking for a whole grain)
 - Chocolate covered pretzels (currently looking)
 - Items we already serve (i.e. spaghetti & tuna fish)



Improvements to Date

Food Service Program improvements in our first round:



Boar's Head

- Boars Head Deli meats
- Chicken nuggets
- Ordering different Chicken Patties and Tenders (breading, texture)

Advertising:

- *Already advertised via signs in the cafeteria*
- *Will be on monthly menu starting February*
- *Yes, can start sending out monthly email with menu and highlight shifts as they occur*

Food Service Program Improvements:

- Taste tested
 - Pizza
 - White wheat bread (positive reviews from students)
- We applied for a whole grain exemption to offer white bread and rolls

New items, Bidding, and General Municipal Law:

- For example, Boars Head will have to compete in the bidding process to be purchased next year.
- They have expressed interest but New York Law requires them to submit a bid.
- We were able to do so this year because it's under the minimum amount (1/2 year) and it's a new product to us.
- Bidding process may dictate the vendor we are allowed to use

Cost estimates:

- ~\$5000 for improvements made so far this year
- Estimate for next year: \$6000.00

Additional Taste Testing Coming Soon:

- Hamburgers
- Taco Meat
- Pork BBQ
- Sausage Links
- BBQ rib

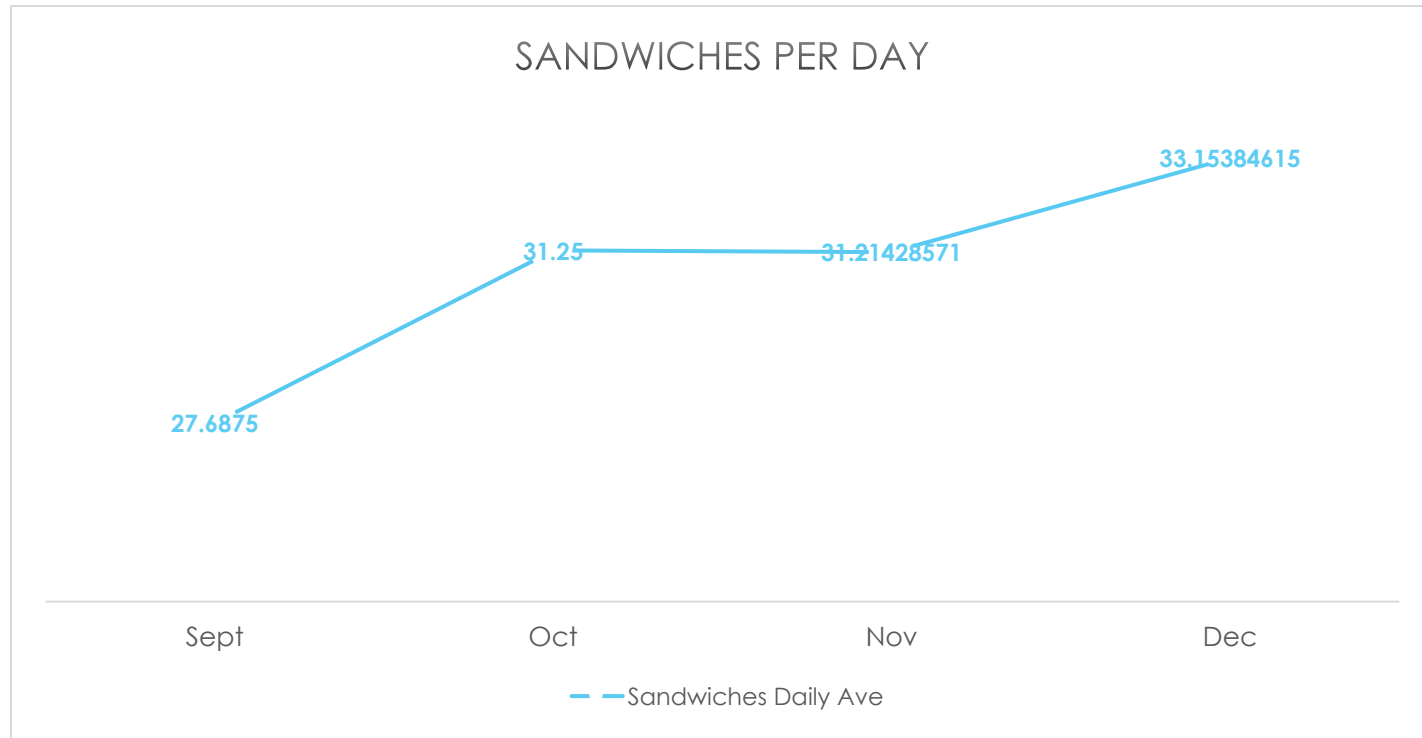


Meal Counts

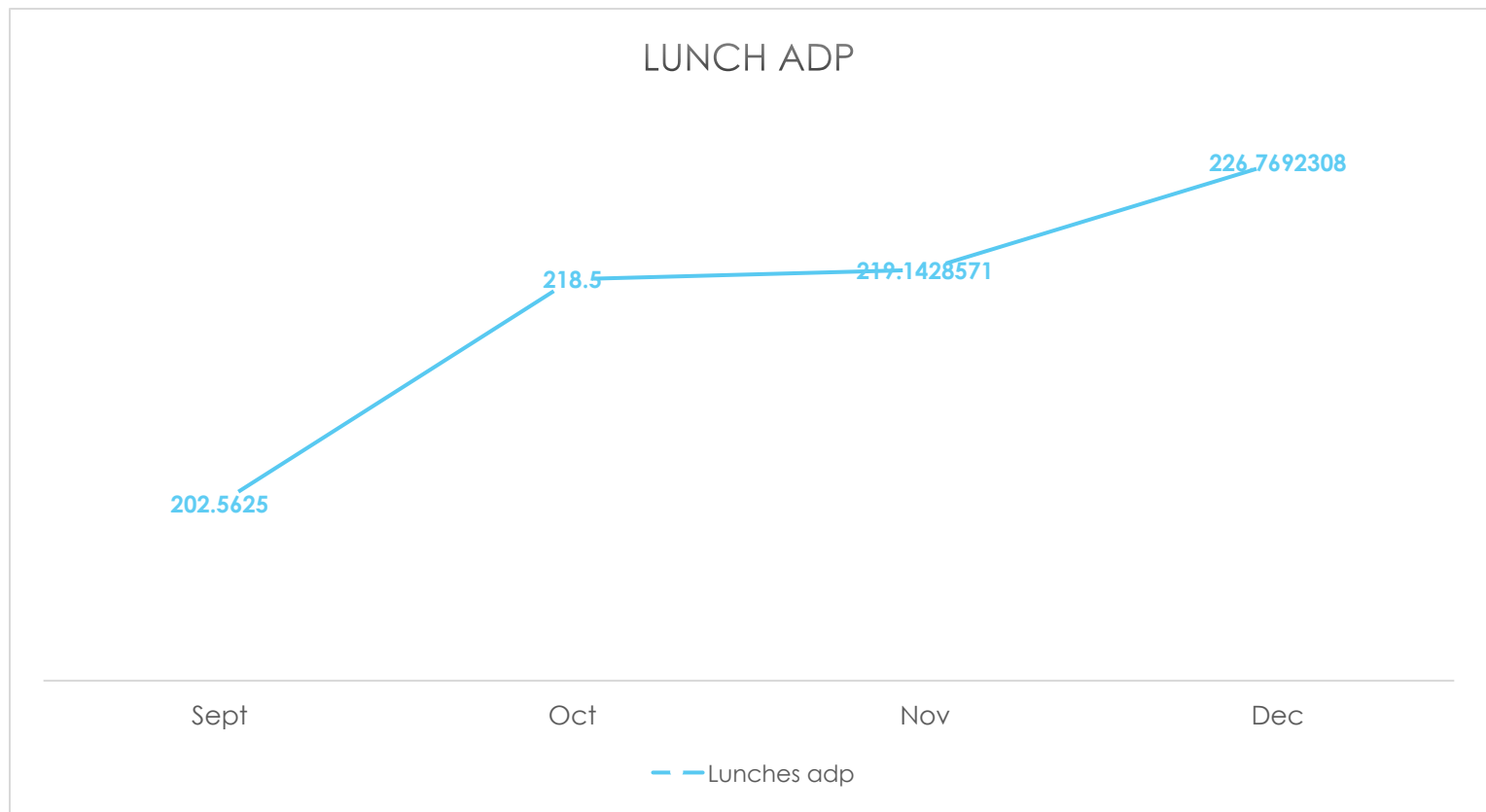
Lunch Participation Rates & Revenue

December 2017	48%
December 2018	46%

Sandwiches per day



Lunches per day



Impact of Improvements

- Average of 3 -4 MORE sandwiches per day (Boars Head)
- Lunch counts have increased by 6 -7 meals a day

Intend to advertise the improvements to increase sales even more.



Exploring Potential Equipment Upgrades

Idea1:

Daily pizza station @ MS

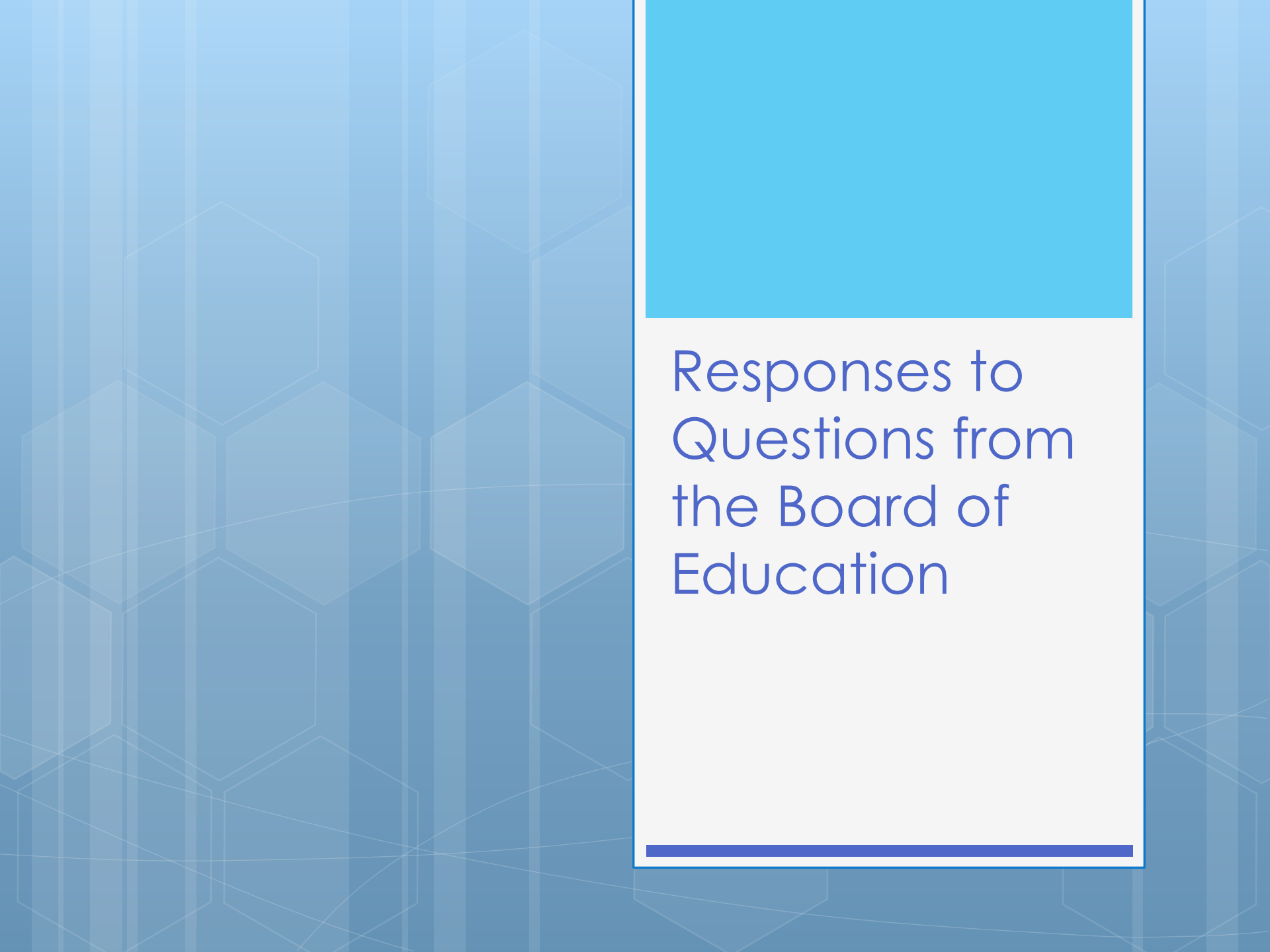
- Middle school
 - Hobart mixer \$10,000
 - Double stack Pizza Oven \$18,000
 - Reach in cooler \$ 4,000
 - Dough press \$ 4,000

(Labor and space considerations would also have to be considered.)

Idea 2: Scratch Cooking @ ES

- Elementary school
 - Replace existing Stove \$2,000
 - An additional Convection Oven \$7,800
 - Reach in cooler \$4,000

(Labor and space considerations would have to be considered.)



Responses to
Questions from
the Board of
Education

Regional F/R Lunch Percentages

District	2017	2018
GWL	33.7	30.1
Chester	35.1	33.1
Goshen	26.7	24.8

It is generally true that when unemployment goes down our Free and Reduced percentages go down.

Menands CSD

	Menands	GWL
Number of Buildings	1	2
Population	316	490
% of students served	47%	46%
Employees	3	6

In addition, Menands has a chef on staff & kitchen equipped for scratch cooking. Our MS has the physical equipment to scratch cook. Would require additional staff hours & some supplemental equipment. Our ES Is ill-equipped for scratch cooking.

Can we serve desserts with meals?

- Must be grain-based
- Limited to 2 ounces of sweet grains.
- Jell-O & ice cream not allowable (not grains)

Meals Per Labor Hour (Meals Served Compared to Hours)

School	Goal	Actual
GWL Elementary	10	13
GWL Middle	12	9

School	Goal	Actual
Overall	22	22

Goal is from the state average.

Look at overall b/c MS does administrative duties as well as prepares for ES.

What happened to hours left by employee who resigned?

- 3 hour shift
- 1 hour given to a peer
- 2 hours were reduced to attrition

Food Given to ES Students

- Scoops @ ES – yes
- Nuggets vs. Patty – will try
- BBQ Patty – will try

Can we offer alternate menu/ 2nd hot option

- Salad bar @ ES was really veggies and dip (students enjoyed this)
- ES – either scale it to the equipment available or purchase necessary equipment plus additional labor
- MS – would be additional labor



Parent Survey

Parent Survey results

- 66 parents responded
 - Largest number of whom were 5th gr parents
- Common responses:
 - More variety
 - Expressed that students aren't satisfied
 - One mention of desserts

Parent Survey results:

- Parents asked us to serve
 - More soup
 - More salad bars
 - Rib patties
 - “Home-cooked meals”
 - “Better quality”

Parent Survey results:

- Feel the lines are too long and students choose not to participate.
- Felt the breakfast meal time is too short a time frame for students to finish their meal.

Comparing Surveys: Students/Parents

- 351 K-8 Students took survey
- 66 Parents
- Students reported a higher purchasing rate
- Students indicated higher satisfaction rate overall

Questions?