



Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Food Service Updates for November 2024

- A new survey asking for members to share meal prices and hourly wages paid to foodservice staff was completed on November 1. Those results will be published on the website and sent out to members later this week.
- Many districts are in the midst of the “every 5 year” Administrative Review Process. Most of the work is done “behind the scenes” with questions being answered online and documents uploaded online in CRRS, the ODEW Foodservice reporting site. An on-site visit will happen near the end of the review to look at the daily meal prep and meal counting procedures, among other things. The review is really 3 reviews in one:
 - A. The resource management section deals with the financial management of the 006-fund including fund balance, allowable expenses, meal prices, indirect costs and ala carte pricing compliance.
 - B. Procurement Review looks at all purchasing. All the needed procurement documents for EPC vendors are on the foodservice website, located on the group purchasing page: SWEPC.org.
 - C. Administrative Review deals with Free/Reduced, Menus, on-site practices and many other USDA program regulations.
- The SWEPC Commodity Food Showcase is scheduled for tomorrow, November 6th! We are excited this year to host a group of 40 culinary students who will be doing their own independent taste tests and giving their opinions! We are also providing the ODE required one-hour procurement training for members who still need this training for the 24-25 school year.
- If you have not yet checked out our new EPC food service website, please go to SWEPC.org. All of our food service programs are described there along with all EPC Food Service bid documents. One new feature is the ability for districts to upload random invoices so we can help to check that the vendors are charging the correct bid price. Also, members can complete the new item survey to suggest new items for the bid.

SWEPC Foodservice Programs

EPC Commercial Bid Program & SWEPC Commodity Co-Op, District Food Service Management Assistance, Procurement Reviews, Administrative Reviews, Profit/Loss Analysis, Consulting & Training Needs, Networking Events, EPC Google Group, Vendor Fair Foodservice Update Meeting/Vendors & more!