Meal Appeal for Summer Meals

Planning the Menu

- Planning the Menu
- Sensory Appeal
- Sponsor Panel Discussion

Planning the Menu

- Understand basic concepts of planning and producing quality summer meals
- Enhance the sensory appeal of summer meal offerings
- Reference best practices and strategies in providing appealing summer meals
Planning the Menu

• Why would menu planning principles be important in serving appealing summer meals?

Planning the Menu

• Determine product needs and availability
  – Forecasting meals served
  – What’s in season & food cost
  – Facility strengths & weakness

Planning the Menu

• Considering Self Prep vs Vended Meals
  – What do I need?
  – What types of meals will I serve?
Planning the Menu

• Setting and meeting quality standards
  – Self Prep on site preparation
    • Receiving/deliveries inspection
    • Protect food safety and quality at each step

• Setting and meeting quality standards
  – Vended Meals
    • Specifications and meal standards
    • Delivery
    • Cost
    • Monitoring and performance

• Balancing flavors
  – Plan offerings that pair well together
  – Use proven recipes
Planning the Menu

- Emphasize variety
  - Flavors
  - Textures
  - Colors
  - Shapes
  - Temperatures

Planning the Menu

- Customer feedback
  - Tasting groups
  - Evaluations
  - Continuous improvements

Website: Boost Meal Appeal

- Features examples & tips from Texas schools
  - Updated frequently to keep information fresh
  - Tips archived to allow extended availability
  - Evaluated monthly using Google Analytics
Panel Q&A Introduction

Candy Biehle – Child Nutrition Director
Smithville ISD
Kim Granato – Director of Culinary Arts
San Antonio Food Bank

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