CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF FOOD SAFETY

Ways to Develop a Culture of Food Safety

Comprehensive across school and community partners
Engage and secure shared goals and long-term involvement from the entire school community: school nutrition staff, administrators, teachers, school support staff, parents, health professionals, health department, students, and volunteers.

Policies, Procedures, and Plans
Review the current school environment using USDA’s Food-Safe Schools Action Guide checklist.
Update policies, procedures, and plans to improve processes.
Repeat annually.

Behaviors and Beliefs
Create a school environment where behaviors and beliefs follow and support food safety guidelines and practices.

Maintain a Food-Safe Environment
Use a food safety management system (FSMS) to reduce foodborne illness. Active managerial control (AMC) and a HACCP-based food safety plan work hand-in-hand in a FSMS to maintain food safety in a school. Follow these practices:

- Purchase food from safe sources.
- Monitor and document cooking and cold/hot holding food temperatures.
- Provide food safety training for managers and staff.
- Require good personal hygiene and facility cleanliness.

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