



SNP Administrative Review Findings

Bremen Public Schools (5480)

Program Year 2026

Bremen Public Schools (5480)

700 W. South St.
Bremen, IN 46506-1620

Food Service Contact

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Executive Contact

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No. of Sites / Reviewed: 2 / 1
Month of Review: December 2025

Commendations

- * The entire staff at Bremen Public Schools were ready and willing to make any changes necessary to become compliant with the Child Nutrition Programs. The food service staff welcomed all technical assistance provided by the State agency and asked great questions to further knowledge of the program. The on-site observation completed at Bremen Senior High School was great. The students had many choices for breakfast and lunch. Foods were well prepared using standardized recipes. The staff were wonderful with the students, knowing each by name and their food preferences. It was apparent the staff truly enjoyed their job and the students they serve. The staff should be commended for a job well done.

Technical Assistance

- * The high school operates an open campus for lunch, allowing students to go off campus for food. This dramatically decreases the number of meals served at the school. The State agency would suggest partnering with local groups to bring compliant foods into the school that would entice students to remain on campus and purchase school lunch.
- * Breakfast participation is very low corporation wide. The school food authority (SFA) should explore different service methods to help increase participation. Breakfast in the classroom, breakfast carts, and breakfast after the bell were discussed during the review.
- * Information was provided regarding guidelines for co-mingling pre-school students. If pre-school students can be identified as a separate group, if meals are pre-plated, or served in the classroom, the SFA must follow the CACFP meal pattern for students. If students are served without a break between grade groups or if grade groups are mixed, co-mingling is allowable.
- * Students with known milk allergies must be offered a milk substitute and not allowed to select regular milk. If the student states they no longer have an allergy, the parent/guardian must submit a discontinuation of accommodations form.
- * The SFA should explore the idea of implementing a pin pad or finger scanner to allow students to enter their individual information which would allow the serving line to move faster. Currently, students say their pin number to the cashier and the cashier enters it, slowing down the serving line.
- * The State agency discussed the idea of implementing new menu items along with scratch cooking. The food service director (FSD) was very receptive and will research and develop new standardized recipes for items discussed.



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Resource Management Comprehensive Review - Bremen Public Schools (5480)

757. Allowable Costs Test

Finding 9118: Sample of expenses charged to nonprofit school foodservice account not reasonable and necessary.

The State agency reviewed a sample representing 10% of expenses for the most recently completed program year, using the SFA's detailed general ledger. The following recorded expenses did not represent an activity or function recognized as reasonable and necessary for the operations of the school food service programs: Republic Trash Services. The non-profit food service account paid for trash removal for the entire corporation.

Corrective Action:

The SFA must determine the total amount charged to the non-profit food service account for trash removal for the 2025-2026 program year and those funds must be restored using non-federal funds. Monthly invoices for trash removal and proof of the total amount restored must be provided to the State agency as corrective action.

Technical Assistance:

Allowable cost resource can be found here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hdASqgEzGILI-U8c683HL3aawo2EeOJs3gTRk-snmdQ/edit?tab=t.0>.

758. SFA have a positive or zero balance in the nonprofit school food service account?

Technical Assistance - Increase Meal Price

Meal prices have not been raised in a number of years and the non-profit food service account is now struggling to maintain a positive balance. Increasing the paid meal price of breakfast and lunch would help increase revenue.

758. SFA have a positive or zero balance in the nonprofit school food service account?

Technical Assistance - PLE Attestation Statement

The SFA must update their PLE Attestation Statement to reflect the correct ending balance of the non-profit food service account as of June 30, 2024.

767. Nonprogram Revenue and Food Cost Ratio

Finding 10174: Revenue ratio was less than its food cost ratio.

The SFA found that its revenue ratio was less than its food cost ratio and did not take action to adequately resolve the deficit.

Corrective Action:

The SFA must take additional steps to ensure compliance with non-program food revenue requirements. Such steps may include:

- Sufficiently increase non-program food prices,
- add sufficient funds to the SFA's non-profit school food service account,
- and/or take other actions to adequately resolve the problem.

For corrective action, please explain what actions have been taken to ensure compliance with non-program food revenue. Additionally, provide to the State agency documentation of the actions, such as:

- Point-of-sale price listing showing a la carte price increases,
- deposit of non-federal funds and plans to regularly maintain the non-federal fund contribution to the non-profit school foodservice account,
- and an updated non-program food revenue tool showing compliance as a result of increased prices or the addition of non-federal funds.



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Technical Assistance:

USDA non-program food revenue guidance can be found at the following websites: <https://www.in.gov/doe/files/sp20-2016s-non-program-food-guidance.pdf>; <https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/cn/SP39-2011r.pdf>

General Program Compliance - Bremen Public Schools (5480)

1007. *On-site observations validate Off-Site Assessment Tool responses to Local School Wellness Policy questions and responses demonstrate compliance with FNS requirements*

Finding 10140: Wellness Policy Review and Update

The following findings were noted regarding the review and update of the local school wellness policy:

- The review and update of the local school wellness policy did not include stakeholders.
- Potential stakeholders were not made aware of their ability to participate in the development, review, update, and implementation of the Local School Wellness policy.
- The results of the most recent assessment of the local school wellness policy are not available to the public.

Corrective Action:

As corrective action the following must occur:

- LEAs must assess the wellness policy every 3 years, at a minimum. This assessment will determine compliance with the wellness policy, how the wellness policy compares to model wellness policies, and progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. The local school wellness policy must be reviewed and updated by the wellness committee. A copy of the assessment and updated wellness policy must be submitted to the State Agency.
- The LEA must permit participation by the general public and the school community in the review and update of the wellness policy. The policy must be re-assessed with input from all interested stakeholders as through the wellness committee. Provide documentation of notification used to inform households of the re-assessment of the local school wellness policy. Once the re-assessment occurs, provide documentation of the assessment.
- Provide proof that the results of the most recent assessment have been communicated to the public, including progress toward meeting the goals of the policy.

Technical Assistance:

Update the Wellness Coordinator contact in CNPweb to reflect current coordinator.

Wellness policy resources can be found at the following website: <https://www.in.gov/doe/nutrition/wellness-policies/>.

1403. *Review of agricultural food components indicates violations of the Buy American provision*

Technical Assistance-USDA Buy American Provision Updated Policy Guidance

USDA has recently updated guidance to program sponsors regarding the Buy American provision. The following are some of the Buy American requirements that have been codified in regulations: Two limited exceptions when non-domestic foods may be purchased by school food authorities; A new threshold for school food authorities that use exceptions (in SY 2025-26, the non-domestic food purchases cap will be 10 percent); The requirement for SFAs to maintain documentation to demonstrate the use of exceptions. Visit the following website to view additional requirements: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/buy-american-provisions>. A recorded webinar on updates to the Buy American provision can be found here: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/buy-american-provisions/webinar>. A copy of the USDA Buy American tracking tool can be downloaded here: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/SP23-2024a.xlsx>.



1602. On-site observations validate Off-Site Assessment Tool responses to SFSP and SBP Outreach questions and responses demonstrate compliance with FNS requirements

Technical Assistance - Breakfast outreach

School Breakfast Program (SBP) outreach to households must include necessary information including meal price, location, and meal service time. Resources on outreach to households on the availability of the School Breakfast Program are available at the following link: <https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/cn/SP40-2011os.pdf>.



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Program Year 2026

Bremen Senior High School (5941)

700 W. South St.
Bremen, IN 46506-1620

Food Service Contact

Mrs. Amy Stouder
Kitchen Manager
(574) 546-3554

Month of Review: December 2025

Meal Components & Quantities - Bremen Senior High School (5941)

400. Day of Review- all required meal components were available to all students during the entire meal service

Technical Assistance - Serving Line

When allowing students to self-serve, strain excess liquid from cooked vegetables or canned fruit to decrease messes.

401. Day of Review- all meals observed and counted for reimbursement contained all of the required meal components

Technical Assistance - Forecasting

The SFA should strive to ensure that all food on the menu each day are available to all students through the entire meal service. This can be achieved by utilizing past production records.

404. Day of Review- signage explaining the reimbursable meal was posted near/at the beginning of the service line and did not promote water or any other beverage as an alternative to milk

Technical Assistance - Milk competing with other beverages

Whenever possible, milk must be located separately from a la carte beverages, as to not compete.

Dietary Specifications - Bremen Senior High School (5941)

605. Dietary Specifications (Calories, Saturated Fat, Sodium, and Trans Fat) were met for the appropriate age/grade group being served. How is the SFA working towards transitional standards for sodium? Add sugar limit technical assistance here.

Technical Assistance- School Nutrition Standards

USDA Final Rule, Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans has established added sugar limits for the following products served in the School Nutrition Programs effective July 1, 2025: breakfast cereals, yogurt, and flavored milk. Weekly added sugar limits are to be implemented beginning July 1, 2027.

Additional information and updates to school nutrition standards can be found at the following link:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/school-nutrition-standards-updates>.

The SFA is responsible for ensuring all cereal, yogurt, and milk offered as part of the reimbursable meal meet the added sugar guidelines.



General Program Compliance - Bremen Senior High School (5941)

1105. Foods and beverages sold to students during the school day meet Smart Snacks standards

Finding 9160: Foods and beverages sold to students not compliant with Smart Snacks standards.

Some foods and beverages sold to students during the school day including a la carte foods and beverages sold during meal services and including food items sold during non-exempt fundraisers do not meet Smart Snacks standards.

Corrective Action:

Entrees sold a la carte the day they are on the menu, or the following day must be sold as the entire entree. The SFA must discontinue selling chicken nuggets, popcorn chicken, and other partial entrees by the piece. If fully implemented as discussed, no further corrective action is required.

Technical Assistance:

Technical assistance was provided during the on-site review to discuss why the entrees could not be sold by individual pieces.