



April 11, 2025

Rachelle Ragland-Greene  
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mail Stop 7602  
Washington, DC 20250-76021320

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Dear Ms. Ragland-Greene:

These comments are submitted on behalf of the 50,000 members of the School Nutrition Association and in response to the US Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) *Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request on Agency Information Collection Activities: 2027 Farm to School Census, OMB Control Number: 0584-0646*. This collection is currently under review and was published on March 26, 2025 in the Federal Register. Our membership includes school nutrition professionals serving K-12 schools, college level academic instructors/professors in related fields, state agency personnel administering Federal child nutrition programs and other related professionals.

Farm to School programs are critical to the Administration's efforts to both improve the health of America's children and support our country's farmers, ranchers and producers nationwide. Farm to School initiatives support immersive learning, educating students about where food comes from and encouraging them to consume a variety of fresh, local options in school. As such, SNA strongly supports USDA's Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grants program, the 2027 Farm to School Census and its efforts to assess the breadth of Farm to School partnerships and how they benefit students.

Regarding the Census' implementation, school nutrition directors should be provided advance notification of the 2027 Census to be able to gather the data and respond thoroughly. FNS previously streamlined and enhanced the process, enabling respondents to complete the survey on mobile devices. To minimize disruptions to district personnel, FNS should continue to consider ways to further streamline the data collection process. As commented on previous studies, to maximize participation, FNS should communicate at the outset, how each study is relevant and beneficial to school nutrition operators.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We continue to look forward to continuing to work with FNS in supporting child nutrition programs.

Sincerely,

Shannon Gleave, RDN, SNS  
President

Patricia Montague, FSAE, CAE  
Chief Executive Officer