



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Howard N. Lee, *Chairman*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

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August 1, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Douglas Yongue, Co-Chair
The Honorable A.B. Swindell, Co-Chair
Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee
Members, Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

FROM: Howard N. Lee, Chairman

RE: Required Report – SL 2005-457: Child Nutrition Program Standards

Pursuant to SL 2005-457, Child Nutrition Services Section of the Department of Public Instruction is required to monitor the progress of each local school administrative unit toward achieving nutrition standards and report annually to the State Board of Education and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the progress of each local school administrative unit in implementing the nutrition standards.

The modified Appropriations Act of 2007 delayed the required implementation of the nutrition standards in elementary schools until the end of the 2009 – 2010 school year. However, at the close of the 2007 – 2008 school year, 95% of elementary schools had successfully implemented the nutrition standards in their school meals programs. In accordance with Section 736A.(b) local administrative units voluntarily implemented to implement nutrition standards as defined in G.S. 115C-264.3 and SBE Policy EEO-S-002. Given the high cost of implementing the nutrition standards in elementary schools (estimated to be \$20 million annually), and no state appropriation to cover the cost of healthful meals for students, local administrative units have few options other than to return to the sale of less nutritious foods and beverages in their school meals programs to prevent further financial losses.

HL/lh

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