

# School Food News

January, 2026

Issue No. 26

## What's New...

### INTRODUCING TASTY PIZZA!

Launched in December 2025, **Tasty Pizza** is an exciting new brand from Synergy Food Sales, created specifically for the K-12 market. Tasty Pizza delivers high-quality pizzas made with only the best ingredients, ensuring great taste schools can trust.

The current lineup includes **16" Cheese and Pepperoni pizzas**, along with a variety of **Sicilian-style pizzas**. Looking ahead, Tasty Pizza plans to expand the line with individual round pizzas and pre-sliced options. Tasty Pizza products are featured on the SY 26-27 Missouri USDA Foods Packet and are available for commercial purchase now.

Be sure to stop by the Tasty Pizza booth at our upcoming food shows to sample these delicious new offerings—you won't want to miss them!



**SYNERGY**  
FOOD SALES

### HELLO 2026!

Welcome back! We hope you had a well-deserved holiday break filled with time to relax and enjoy family and friends.

At Synergy Food Sales, we've been busy preparing for the upcoming commodity and bid seasons, and we're ready to assist you every step of the way. Be sure to turn to pages three and four of this newsletter for helpful tips to refresh your memory as we head into the busiest time of the school year.

You'll also find several newly launched items from our top-notch manufacturer partners highlighted throughout this issue. And as always, don't miss our featured Meet the Director, Manufacturer Representative, and State Employee sections.

Finally, be sure to check out Issue No. 26 Trivia at the end of the newsletter for your chance to win a special prize from our trivia sponsor, Red Gold!

Thank you again for your hard work and for being a valued partner. We are honored to be a part of your mission and are looking forward to a successful and rewarding school year together.

#### ► Synergy Road Shows:

Show #1: January 20th - Blue Springs (KC)

Show #2: January 21st - Waynesville

Show #3: January 22nd - Maryland Heights (STL)

#### ► Southern IL Commodity Food Show

Friday, January 23rd

#### ► H.O.A. Food Show

Wednesday, February 4th

KCI Expo Center - Kansas City

#### ► SFNDA Food Show

Tuesday, February 17th

Ameristar Casino Resort - St. Charles

### FIND US AT:

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**\*\*Be sure to register for these events if you haven't already!\*\***

# Upcoming events.

SPRING  
2026

JAN  
19

**MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**

Monday, January 19

FEB  
7

**CHINESE NEW YEAR**

Saturday, February 7

FEB  
14

**VALENTINE'S DAY**

Saturday, February 14

FEB  
18

**LENT BEGINS**

Wednesday, February 18

MAR  
2-6

**NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK**

March, 2-6

MAR  
17

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

Tuesday, March 17

APR  
5

**EASTER**

Sunday, April 5

APR  
19-22

**ACDA ANNUAL CONVENTION**

April, 19-22

MAY  
1

**SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY**

Friday, May 1

MAY  
10

**MOTHER'S DAY**

Sunday, May 10

JUN  
21

**FATHER'S DAY**

Sunday, June 21

JUL  
4

**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

Saturday, July 4

JUL  
12-14

**SNA-NATIONAL CONVENTION**

July, 12-14

## Schedule

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun



# COMMODITY CORNER WITH KRISTINE BRIDGEMAN (SYNERGY COMMODITY QUEEN)

01.

## Future Fee-For-Service Orders

Did you know that together we can change the future? Future Fee For Service (FFS) orders that is. No one's crystal ball is 100% accurate (or if it is you wouldn't be working). If you find you need more cases or less cases or a different item from a particular Synergy processor, call me. I am about 2 months ahead of your delivery schedule, but we can usually adjust.



02.

## NOI Distributor Assignments

Make sure your Net Off Invoice (NOI) banks are assigned to the correct distributor. There are two programs processors use to keep track of your NOI usage. Processor Link or K-12 Foodservice. If you don't want to create your own sign on for these at least read the monthly or quarterly reports sent to you by myself or your distributor.



03.

## NOI Lb. Usage Updates

I send out NOI bank updates quarterly and some distributors send them monthly. Please review them & let me know if you have any questions. (I like questions. 😊)



04.

## NOI Product Selection

If you plan to use the NOI program, your distributor should provide you with a list of eligible items they are willing to stock as part of your procurement. Remember you can utilize the dollars in your bank for any eligible item from that processor as long as your distributor will stock it for you.



05.

## Excess Commodity Lbs.

Running out of commodity products? Ask us if there is any excess that can be transfer to you by the State. For example; Sometimes DESE needs 3/4th of a truck of chicken to fill everyone's orders. They might order a full truck so they end up with 1/4<sup>th</sup> as excess to be shared for those who can use it. It's not always there so don't count on it but always ask.



06.

## Do You Have Excess Commodity Lbs?

If you find your crystal ball was cloudy, and you will not be able to use all the entitlement you allocated to a processor, call & offer it back so others might use it. Maybe your kids decided they don't want product X this year but can't get enough of product Y. We might know of a school who's kids only want X and can't stand Y.



I wanted to share some tips & tricks some people might not know about. These are small ways we try to assist you in utilizing your commodity budget.

I like the title coordinator because that's what I will try to do for you. Synergy currently represents 13 different commodity processors, each with their own personalities, but you can handle them all with 1 phone call or email to us here at Synergy.

As many can attest, I like questions, I like talking, I like helping & I like what you do to take care of our kids. Don't ask me for cooking tips because that's not my gift but keeping data sorted out on spreadsheets & finding a way to stretch a dollar, those I excel at. (Pun intended) 😊



# TIPS TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR 2026-2027 BID SEASON

**01.**

## **Plan Ahead and Allow Adequate Time**

Bid requests should be issued early to allow sufficient time for vendor responses and evaluation. Clearly communicate pricing deadlines while allowing adequate time to review bids.

**02.**

## **Organize Bid Requests**

To promote consistency and equitable manufacturer participation, bid requests should clearly identify:

- Distributor Name and serving location
- Product category
- Pricing return date and bid period.

**03.**

## **Provide Detailed Product Specifications**

Accurate and detailed product specifications are critical to obtaining comparable bids. Districts should include manufacturer item numbers, pack sizes, and estimated usage wherever possible. Avoid vague product descriptions.

**04.**

## **Clearly Define Acceptable Product Alternatives**

Indicate whether bids must meet exact (hard-spec) requirements or if approved alternates and like items will be considered. Any alternates must meet applicable USDA meal pattern requirements, Buy American provisions, and district nutrition standards.

**05.**

## **Support Fair and Comparable Pricing**

Well-defined bid requests support fair competition and consistent pricing evaluation. Using specific product descriptions and manufacturer numbers ensures all vendors are bidding equivalent items.

For bid assistance, never hesitate to contact our Bid Coordinator. Kim Lopez is our Synergy Food Sales Bid Coordinator and is happy to help!



**816-525-7800 ext. 3**



**Bids@synergyfoodsals.com**



# HEART ♥ F AMERICA



**HOA & DESE-MO  
are excited to announce the**

## **2026 INDUSTRY SHOWCASE**

Feb 3rd - 4th, 2026

### **Networking Reception**

Feb 3, 5-7pm

Atrium, Embassy Suites

7640 NW Tiffany Springs Pkwy, Kansas City, MO 64153

*(open to all Industry)*

### **Exhibitor Fair**

Feb 4, 2026 11am - 3pm

KCI Expo Center

11730 Ambassador Dr, Kansas City, MO 64153



# COMMODITY EXPO AND VENDOR SHOWCASE

**Tuesday, February 17**

**8:30 AM - 3:00 PM**

Registration opens at 7:30 AM

Ameristar  
1 Ameristar Blvd.  
St. Charles, MO

Free admission  
to both events

## NETWORKING RECEPTION

**Monday, February 16**

**5:00 - 8:00 PM**

RYSE Night Club at the Ameristar  
1 Ameristar Blvd.  
St. Charles, MO

## SCHEDULE

7:30 AM

Registration Opens

8:30 - 9:45 AM

Missouri USDA Foods General Session/  
Completing the packet on the  
Gold Star website

Illinois Food Distribution for Schools

10 - 11:00 AM

Management Style and  
Empowering Employees

Kitchen Efficiency  
with Tilt Skillets

Missouri Commodities 101  
(for New Food Service Directors)

11 AM - 12 PM

VENDOR SHOWCASE  
**Directors Only**

Common Food Safety Violations  
*presented by St. Charles County Health Dept.*

12 - 3:00 PM

VENDOR SHOWCASE  
Open to All





# Be ready for ANYTHING

all natural  
**Amazin' Raisin**<sup>TM</sup>

Flavor-Infused Raisins

Smart+Snack approved



**Kickin' Kernels**

sunflower seeds  
Smart+Snack approved

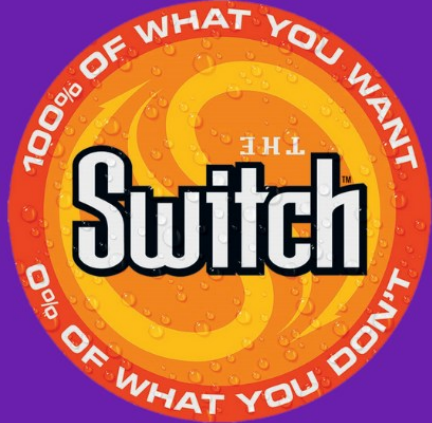


**CHORTLES**

Graham crackers  
Smart+Snack approved







# Back in an 8oz can!!

## Already in Stock\*



## Place your Switch orders today!

### 100% Juice

### Great for ala carte and vending

### Smart Snack compliant at all grade levels

\*Contact your Distributor, Broker or Apple & Eve Regional to obtain stocking codes



# SCHOOL FOODSERVICE CHEESE PIZZA BITES®

Our Pizza Bites® are formulated to meet or exceed the Child Nutrition Meal Pattern Requirements.

## 8 BITE SUGGESTED SERVING-SIZE PROVIDES:

- 2 oz. grains
- 2 oz. meat/meat alternative

Adjustable  
serving sizes  
with options  
for Breakfast  
& Lunch!

- ✓ 100% Mozzarella Cheese
- ✓ Meets Whole-Grain Rich Criteria
- ✓ Reduced Sodium Level Option
- ✓ 15g Protein/Serving
- ✓ 0 Trans Fat
- ✓ NO Artificial Flavors or
- ✓ Synthetic Colors
- ✓ NO Added MSG or Preservatives
- ✓ Good Source of Calcium, Iron & Vitamin C



**CP Foods  
North America**

Global Leader in Frozen Foods Manufacturing

# Reduced Sodium & Fat Cheese FOR YOUR K-12 MENU

Meeting the lower sodium targets of the school nutrition standards doesn't mean you have to sacrifice taste! Bongards offers a variety of protein-packed, calcium-rich cheeses that contain less fat and sodium than regular cheese. Provide your students a healthier meal without sacrificing the delicious cheesy flavor they love!

- ★ 30-50% reduction in fat and/or sodium
- ★ Helps meet school nutrition requirements
- ★ Gluten free and rBST free
- ★ Free from artificial colors and dyes
- ★ Made using our farmer-owners' milk
- ★ A great value for your commodity dollars!



PRODUCT CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	MMA	SERVING SIZE	TOTAL FAT (g)	SODIUM (mg)	CAL. (g)	PROTEIN (g)	COMMODITY # PER CASE	PACK SIZE	NET WEIGHT (Lbs)	SHELF LIFE (Days)
110541	Red. Fat (30%)/Sod. (30%) Yellow American – 160H	1	2 Slices	6	280	80	7	15.41	4/5#	20	365
111321	Red. Fat (50%) Yellow American – 160H	1	2 Slices	4.5	440	70	6	22.53	6/5#	30	365
111331	Red. Fat (50%)/Sod. (50%) Yellow American – 160H	1	2 Slices	4.5	190	70	7	23.40	6/5#	30	365
111351	Red. Fat (30%)/Sod. (30%) Yellow American – 160H	1	2 Slices	6	280	80	7	23.17	6/5#	30	365
111431	Red. Fat (50%)/Sod. (30%) White American – 160H	1	2 Slices	4.5	290	70	5	23.17	6/5#	30	365
114421	Red. Fat (33%) Past. Blended Yellow Cheddar – 160P	1	2 Slices	6	220	80	7	20.00	4/5#	20	365
752491	Red. Fat (33%) Yellow Cheddar – 48 SOS	1	2 Slices	6	180	90	8	12.00	8/1.5#	12	180
755711	Red. Fat (33%) Yellow Cheddar Feather Shred	1	1 oz	6	210	90	8	20.00	4/5#	20	180
775821	Super Melt™ RF (30%)/RS (30%) Yel. American Shred	1	1 oz	6	250	90	6	15.38	4/5#	20	180
402921	Red. Fat (33%) Cheddar Cheese Sticks	1	1 oz	6	180	90	8	10.50	168/1oz	10.50	180
402941	Red. Fat (33%) Marble Cheese Sticks	1	1 oz	6	180	90	8	10.50	168/1oz	10.50	180



Jill Ponder  
Director of Sales – K12  
Jill.Ponder@Bongards.com  
952-277-5582

For more information, visit  
[K12.Bongards.com](http://K12.Bongards.com)





# BUY AMERICAN – SELECT 100% JUICE!





# Order SideKicks Celebrations Seasonal Items Before It's Too Late!

100% Fruit Juice • Credits as a 1/2 cup Fruit • Unique Smooth-Frozen Texture



## Eeek!

Available for Fall Only!

- Orange and Cream Flavor
- Enjoy a spooktacular option for Halloween and fall months



## Jolly!

Available for Winter Only!

- Frosted Berry Flavor
- Add holiday cheer to winter festivities



## Be Mine!

Available for Winter Only!

- Strawberry and Cream Flavor
- The perfect way to say "Be Mine" on Valentine's Day



## Bloom!

Available for Spring Only!

- Watermelon and Lemonade Flavor
- Brighten your menu this spring



## Hooray!

Available Year-Round!

- Banana and Cherry Flavor
- Celebrate everyday occasions like birthdays, last day of school, and more



## Stars & Stripes!

Available Year-Round!

- Cherry and Lemon Flavor
- Celebrate everyday occasions including patriotic holidays, themed lunches, and more

LIMITED TIME ONLY



## CHERRY & ORANGE IRISH SODA BREAD

**Ingredients:** Yield: 1 loaf- 16 servings

1/2 cup Whole Wheat Flour	1 1/2 cups Buttermilk
3 1/2 cups All-Purpose Flour	1 Large Egg
1/2 cup Sugar	2 tbsp Orange Zest
1 tsp Baking Powder	(about 1 large orange)
1 1/2 tsp Baking Soda	1 cup Dried Tart
1 tsp Salt	Montmorency Cherries
5 tbsp Unsalted Butter	
(cut into cubes and kept cold)	

**Directions:** Preheat oven to 375°F. In electric mixer bowl, **COMBINE** whole wheat flour, all-purpose flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. **MIX** for 30 seconds until evenly combined. **ADD** the cubed butter and mix on medium-low speed until butter is worked into flour mixture with pieces the size of a pea or smaller. **ADD** orange zest and dried cherries to the dry ingredients. In a large measuring cup, **WHISK** together the buttermilk and egg. With the mixer on medium speed, pour the wet mixture into the dry ingredients and mix until just combined with a few dry crumbs. **KNEAD** the dough slightly to make sure all ingredients are combined. **FORM** into a round boule, shaped on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Using a sharp knife, make a large X slash across the top. **BAKE** in preheated oven until deep golden brown on top and bottom, 35-40 minutes. Remove from oven and cool at least 15 minutes before slicing.

**Nutrition Facts** 1 Serving: Calories 271kcal, Carbohydrates 306g, Protein 4.5g, Fat 51g, Saturated Fat 2.8g, Polyunsaturated Fat 0.4g, Monounsaturated Fat 1.4g, Trans Fat 0g, Cholesterol 23.7mg, Sodium 294.1mg, Potassium 149mg, Fiber 1.8g, Sugar 12.6g, Vitamin A 46.5 IU, Vitamin C 1mg, Calcium 63.9mg, Iron 1.6mg



## CHERRY OVERNIGHT OATS

**Ingredients:**

Yield: 400 servings

200 cups Old Fashioned Oats  
 25 cups Chia Seeds  
 4 tbsp of Fine Sea Salt  
 1 cup Ground Cinnamon  
 2 cups Vanilla Extract  
 25 cups Maple Syrup  
 50 cups (19 lbs) Dried Tart Montmorency Cherries  
 250 cups (15.625 gallons) Milk  
 Dollop of Yogurt (optional)

**Directions:** In a large bowl, combine all ingredients. Cover and refrigerate overnight (a minimum of 5 hours). Serve cold with a dollop of yogurt.

**Nutrition Facts** 1 Serving: Calories 342kcal, Carbohydrates 59g, Protein 9g, Fat 8g, Sodium 275mg, Sugar 21g



## CHERRY BBQ SAUCE

**Ingredients:**

Yield: about 75 cups - 400 servings

25 cups (9.5 lbs) Dried Tart Montmorency Cherries  
 25 cups (200 fl oz) Orange Juice  
 50 cups (400 oz) Barbecue Sauce

**Directions:** In a large pot combine dried cherries and orange juice. Bring to a simmer, cover and cook over low until plump. Cool slightly, then puree until smooth. Transfer to a bowl, add BBQ sauce, and mix well.

**Nutrition Facts** Serv. size: 1.5oz, Calories 80, Carbohydrates 19g, Cholesterol 0mg, Fat 0g, Sodium 20mg, Sugar 16g (Incl. 2g Added Sugars), Protein 0g, Potassium 50mg





# Dave's Baking

## School Inspired Uses and Recipes



Corn Star used  
as a Crouton  
in a  
Southwest Salad

### Cornmeal Super Star

- Smart Snack approved
- Item #150
- 1.65oz / 1 grain
- 128 per case



Corn Star paired  
with Chili on  
Lunch menu

### Twin Bar

- Item #WG1001
- 2.65oz / 2 grain
- 72 per case



Twin Bars used as Dunkers  
in a Yogurt Parfait

New Low Added Sugar  
Breakfast Bars Available  
in Apple or Blueberry

Count as 2g and ½ cup off fruit !!

### New Strawberry 2g Muffin







# GOLD CREEK<sup>®</sup>

## **NEW ITEMS**



**#792409**

**WG Whole Muscle  
Spicy Dill Breast  
Chunks**



**#792435**

**WG Whole Muscle  
SWICY Sweet Heat  
Fillet**



**#791828**

**Fully Cooked  
Chicken Sausage  
Patty**



**#791868**

**Fully Cooked WG  
Sausage Cruncher  
Stick**

# RASPBERRY SWIRL ROLL

MADE WITH 100% NATURAL  
RASPBERRIES FROM THE  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST



**378IW**  
**36/2.7 oz**



**0378IW**  
**36/2.5 oz**



**2G EQ**

Zero artificial colors or flavors  
Made in a nut & sesame free facility



**HADLEYFARMS.COM**



IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT KIDS EAT  
**2 SERVINGS OF  
SEAFOOD A WEEK**



26264  
WHOLE GRAIN BREADED  
POLLOCK BITES .5 oz



53989  
WHOLE GRAIN CORN MEAL BREADED  
ALASKA POLLOCK FRIES 1.25 oz



0855C  
WHOLE GRAIN POTATO CRUNCH  
ALASKA POLLOCK MUGGET 1 oz





# Familiar Formats with a Flavorful New Twist



#143700 - Buffalo Ranch Turkey Breast Stick

## Buffalo Ranch Turkey Breast Stick

Fully Cooked, Frozen | Made from Tender Turkey Breast  
Meets Smart Snack Standards

Commodity Eligible

Draws down from the 100124 White Bank

1 Turkey Breast Stick	200 mg of Sodium
= 1 mt/mt alt	per Stick

Just Thaw & Serve | Great for On-The-Go and Field Trips  
Buffalo Ranch Flavor that Kids Know and Love!

Can be served alone as a snack, or part of a protein pack or bento box.



#144783 - Jalapeño Popper Turkey Meatball

## Jalapeño Popper Turkey Meatball

Fully Cooked, Frozen

Delicious Blend of White & Dark Turkey mixed with  
Jalapeño Seasoning and Cheese

Commodity Eligible

Draws down from the 100124 W/D Meat Bank

5 Meatball Serving = 2  
mt/mt alt

Easy and Versatile | Students will Love the Big Flavor!

Serving Ideas Include:

Serve Over  
Pasta

Serve with a  
White Queso

Serve Over  
Rice

Serve as a  
Sandwich or Wrap

Get more product info and recipe ideas at [jennieofoodservice.com/k12](https://jennieofoodservice.com/k12)

For Sample and Questions, contact: Amanda Harvey  
[ajharvey@hormel.com](mailto:ajharvey@hormel.com), 314-503-0271

All JENNIE-O® Turkey Products qualify under the Buy American Provision.



JF529000 42879 10205

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## More Options. Smarter Solutions. Better Value.

With the cost of beef continuing to rise, now's the time to balance your menu with a mix of proteins that stretch your commodity dollars and deliver the variety students crave. J.T.M. offers a line of Turkey, Pork, Cheese, and Vegetarian products – along with our complete portfolio of kettle-crafted beef solutions – to help you maximize USDA Foods, balance budgets, expand menu variety, and keep students excited about every meal.

### TURKEY

Taco Filling  
Country Breakfast Scramble  
Mini Corn Dog Bites  
Pancake & Sausage Bites

### PORK

Taco Filling  
Sloppy Joe  
Spaghetti Sauce  
Sausage Gravy  
Meatballs  
BBQ Rib Patty w/Sauce  
Breaded Pork Chop Patty  
Sausage Patties

### VEGETARIAN

PlantBorn Taco Filling (pea protein)  
PlantBorn Pasta Sauce (pea protein)  
Three Bean Chili  
Tomato Soup

### CHEESE

Fiesta Scramble  
Mac & Cheese  
Penne Alfredo  
Three Cheese Cavatappi  
Broccoli Cheese Soup

**Sauces:** Cheddar, Queso Blanco, Golden Hatch, Jalapeno, Three Cheese, Alfredo Sauce, Cheddar Brown Gravy,



*Let our dedicated team of K-12 specialists work with you to find the right mix of products to fit and fill your menu.*

**For more info or to request samples, contact:**

Dave Hackman | [davehackman@jtmfoodgroup.com](mailto:davehackman@jtmfoodgroup.com) | (513) 503-6047

Tom Hoenig | [tom@synergyfoodsales.com](mailto:tom@synergyfoodsales.com) | (636) 329-0700

John Pickert | [john@synergyfoodsales.com](mailto:john@synergyfoodsales.com) | (816) 525-7800

Andy Dudenhoeffer | [andyd@fairmarketinc.com](mailto:andyd@fairmarketinc.com) | (573) 690-5026

LET'S CREATE  
GREAT DISHES  
TOGETHER.

JTM Food Group  
200 Sales Avenue  
Harrison, OH 45030

800.626.2308  
[JTMFoodGroup.com](http://JTMFoodGroup.com)







# Tamales

"See The Difference -  
Taste Our Success"®



**99750**  
Two Cheese &  
Green Chile  
Tamale

**99760**  
Chicken,  
Salsa Verde & Cheese  
Tamale

**99770**  
Shredded Beef,  
Salsa Roja & Cheese  
Tamale

**99780**  
Shredded Pork,  
Salsa Roja & Cheese  
Tamale

- CN Labeled
- Gluten Free
- Available  
Commodity Processed
- Synthetic Husk  
(Eco-Friendly)



Product Stock Code	Product Description & Meat/Meat Alternate/OZ EQV Grains	Size Ounce	Case Pack	Calories	Sodium (mg)	% Calories From Fat	% Calories From Sat Fat	% Sugar	Notes
<b>LOS CABOS BRAND TAMALES - CN W/PAPER HUSK BULK PACKED</b>									
99740	Shredded Beef, Salsa Roja & Cheese Tamale 1/1 PFS	3.45	72	205.23	383.94	42.84%	20.22%	1.22%	
99750	Two Cheese & Green Chile Tamale 2/2	5.10	60	344.53	711.45	47.05%	24.74%	1.09%	
99760	Chicken, Salsa Verde & Cheese Tamale 2/2	5.75	60	308.56	621.86	40.13%	19.05%	0.85%	
99770	Shredded Beef, Salsa Roja & Cheese Tamale 2/2	5.75	60	342.05	639.90	42.86%	20.21%	1.22%	
99780	Shredded Pork, Salsa Roja & Cheese Tamale 2/2 PFS	5.75	60	331.54	606.16	41.91%	19.33%	1.23%	
<b>LOS CABOS BRAND TAMALES - CN W/PAPER HUSK IW PREPRINTED OVENABLE FILM</b>									
99750	Two Cheese & Green Chile Tamale 2/2	5.10	60	344.53	711.45	47.05%	24.74%	1.09%	
99760	Chicken, Salsa Verde & Cheese Tamale 2/2	5.75	60	308.56	621.86	40.13%	19.05%	0.85%	
99770	Shredded Beef, Salsa Roja & Cheese Tamale 2/2	5.75	60	342.05	639.90	42.86%	20.21%	1.22%	
99780	Shredded Pork, Salsa Roja & Cheese Tamale 2/2 PFS	5.75	60	331.54	606.16	41.91%	19.33%	1.23%	





**BAR-B-Q**  
Nashville, TN

Nicks is a small processor delivering high quality barbeque for over 30 years. Using the same recipes and time proven smoking methods Nicks provides a delicious product and an extremely clean label for your lunch program.

Providing a classic southern style, vinegar based and a traditional red sauce product. Both are available in a lower sodium version. When taste & quality matter, and a clean label is vital; Nicks is the right choice every time!

**Signature  
"Carolina Style"  
Pulled Pork BBQ  
#23451**

**Traditional Pull Pork  
BBQ (Red Sauce,  
Lower Sodium)  
#23462**

**Semi-Dry Pulled  
Pork BBQ  
#23453**

**Traditional Pulled  
Pork BBQ  
#23452**





# New! Naturally Balanced™ BBQ Sauce

- Delicious & Nutritious -



Look for the Leaf

Naturally Balanced™



Texas BBQ Tostitos

\*Free pump available to order:  
RedGoldKetchupDispensers.com/shop/pump  
with discount code: BBQPUMP

**RED GOLD.**  
Nutritionally Enhanced™

Plant-Based Protein

**Pasta Sauce**

BOLOGNESE STYLE

Available November 2024

made with **PEA PROTEIN**



**Nutritionally Enhanced™**

- ✓ Reimbursable Meal Option
- ✓ 1 Cup Serving = 2 oz. Meat Alternate + 1 1/4 Cup Red/Orange Vegetable
- ✓ Unique Enhanced Low Sodium Formula: 1 Cup Serving = 420mg of Sodium
- ✓ Great Taste
- ✓ Commodity Processing Discounts Available on Tomato Paste
- ✓ Shelf Stable for 30 months

**14g PROTEIN**  
per 1 cup

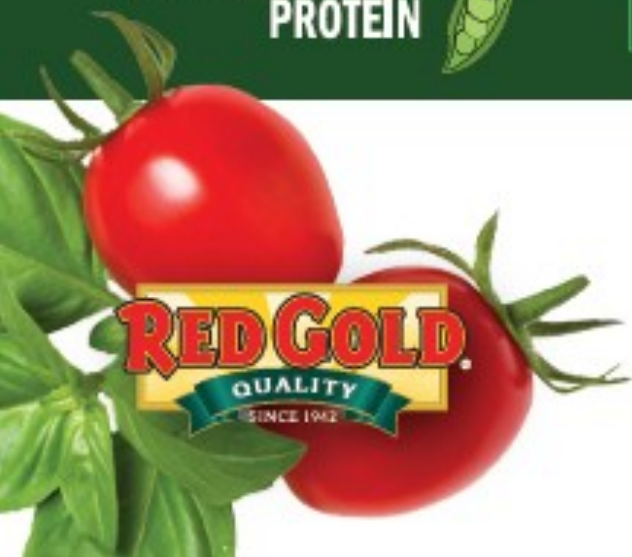
Look for the Leaf

Nutritionally Enhanced™



Red Gold Foodservice Products

**RED GOLD.**  
QUALITY  
SINCE 1942







LOCALLY GROWN  
QUALITY APPLES  
SINCE 1992

APPLES THAT ARE  
**ACTUALLY  
EATEN,**  
NOT JUST SERVED



Packaged Apple Slices Fresh  
from the Orchard



Gluten and Nut-Free



Non-browning slices without  
compromising taste

Scan to view our full product line!



**21-DAY USE BY DATE**



**SLICED TO ORDER TO  
GUARANTEE FRESHNESS  
AND CUSTOMER  
SATISFACTION.**



**USE ORGANIC  
NATURESEAL TO  
STABILIZE THE APPLE  
SLICES.**



**NOI DRAWDOWN  
USES 100%  
COMMODITY APPLES**



**\$0.03 BETTER NOI  
REBATE PER SERVING  
BETTER THAN OUR  
COMPETITORS.**







# Rockin'ola

**“NEW”**

## Pro Protein Apple Granola IW

**Child Nutrition  
Program  
Contribution:**  
**1 oz. Equivalent  
Whole Grain**  
+  
**1 M/Meat  
Alternate**  
+  
**½ Cup of Fruit**

### Nutrition Facts

1 serving per container	
<b>Serving size</b>	<b>(52g)</b>
<b>Amount Per Serving</b>	
<b>Calories</b>	<b>220</b>
% Daily Value*	
<b>Total Fat</b> 4.5g	9%
Saturated Fat 0.5g	1%
Trans Fat 0g	0%
<b>Cholesterol</b> 0mg	0%
<b>Sodium</b> 80mg	2%
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 36g	12%
Dietary Fiber 4g	14%
Total Sugars 15g	30%
Includes 6g Added Sugars	12%
<b>Protein</b> 8g	16%
<b>Vitamin D</b> 0mcg	0%
<b>Calcium</b> 40mg	2%
<b>Iron</b> 2.7mg	15%
<b>Potassium</b> 200mg	4%

\*Percent Daily Values are based on a diet of other people's secrets.

**No Peanuts**  
**No Tree-nuts**  
**No Artificial Colors**  
**No Artificial Flavors**  
**Meets Smart Snacks**

**Case ID #8004391**

**Case Pack 115/1.84 oz.**

**Best by 18 mo. Ambient  
Temperature**

**60 cases / Pallet tj/hi 10x6**  
**Case weight 15lbs. Gross**  
**Case Cube 1.19**

**CACFP  
Compliant**

**Ingredients:** Whole grain rolled oats, Dried apples,  
Soy protein crisps (soy protein isolate), Sunflower seeds  
Whole Oat Flour, Sugar, Corn Syrup, Canola oil, Cinnamon,  
Natural flavor, Salt, Mixed, tocopherols (added to protect flavor).

**Allergens:** Contains Soy



# SOLELY:®

- ☒ **smart snack compliant**
- ☒ **no added sugar**
- ☒ **no artificial anything**
- ☒ **mess-free**
- ☒ **shelf-stable**
- ☒ **no prep time**
- ☒ **kid-craved parent-approved**



For more information, contact:

Jon Perry, Assoc. Director of Sales, Specialty Retail  
[jperry@solely.com](mailto:jperry@solely.com) | 303-378-7230



# SOLELY:

ALLIANCE FOR A  
**HEALTHIER  
GENERATION**



## FRUIT JERKY

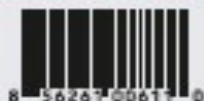
### ORGANIC MANGO



Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size	1 Strip (23g)
Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b>	<b>80</b>
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 0g	0%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%
Trans Fat 0g	0%
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 15mg	1%
Total Carbohydrate 10g	2%
Dietary Fiber 1g	4%
Total Sugars 10g	
Includes 0g Added Sugars	0%
Protein 1g	
Vit. D 0mg 0%	Calcium 11mg 2%
Iron 0.2mg 2%	Potassium 180mg 4%

\*The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.

Dot Item #: 735031



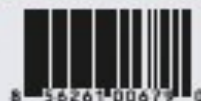
### ORGANIC MANGO CHILI & SALT



Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size	1 Strip (23g)
Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b>	<b>80</b>
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 0g	0%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%
Trans Fat 0g	0%
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 115mg	5%
Total Carbohydrate 10g	2%
Dietary Fiber 1g	2%
Total Sugars 10g	
Includes 0g Added Sugars	0%
Protein 1g	
Vit. D 0mg 0%	Calcium 11mg 2%
Iron 0.2mg 2%	Potassium 180mg 4%

\*The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.

Dot Item #: 735041



## DRIED FRUIT

### ORGANIC MANGO PIECES



Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size	1 Package (30g)
Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b>	<b>90</b>
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 0g	0%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%
Trans Fat 0g	0%
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 0mg	0%
Total Carbohydrate 22g	8%
Dietary Fiber 2g	7%
Total Sugars 18g	
Includes 0g Added Sugars	0%
Protein 1g	
Vit. D 0mg 0%	Calcium 21mg 2%
Iron 0.2mg 2%	Potassium 180mg 4%

\*The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.

Dot Item #: 784407



MEETS USDA  
**1/2 CUP**  
OF FRUIT  
PER PORTION



SCAN TO SEE ALL SMART  
SNACK APPROVED OPTIONS



**Experience Flavor  
Like Never Before!**



Naturally Flavored  
**TASTY WATER**



Sweet Heat  
**ONION RINGS**



Student Loved  
**PEPPERONI  
PIZZA BITES**



Served Hot or Cold  
**CHEESE TORTELLINI**



Southwest Style  
**EGG ROLLS**

**Want to learn more? Get in Touch!**



**Amy Winters**  
Senior Regional Sales Manager  
Mountain West  
awinters@tastybrandsk12.com  
(816) 387-7071

Discover  
**NEW**  
Menu  
Standouts





**Boldly Innovative,  
Simply Delicious!**



Freezer to Oven  
**CROISSANT DOUGH**



Cream Cheese  
**BAGEL DOTS**



Student Loved  
**EGG & CHEESE  
STUFFED BISCUIT**



Served Hot or Cold  
**ANYTIMERS BBQ  
CHICKEN PIZZA KIT**



Individually Wrapped  
**TWIN PACK MINI  
SUB SANDWICHES**

**Want to learn more? Get in Touch!**



**Amy Winters**  
Senior Regional Sales Manager  
Mountain West  
awinters@tastybrandsk12.com  
(816) 387-7071

Discover  
**NEW**  
Menu  
Standouts





# Tasty Pizza

16" Artisan  
Pizza Pies

Made for Schools.  
Loved by Students.  
Powered by Tasty.


Sicilian Style  
Pizza Pies


Whole  
Grain  
Crust

Fresh  
Ingredients


Deliciously  
Nutritious

**Tasty Pizza**

 [tastypizzak12.com](http://tastypizzak12.com)

 (516) 938-4588

## Discover Where Flavor Meets Fun

We're bringing the authentic flavor of a NY pizza party to your cafeteria. Made specifically for K-12, Tasty Pizza blends the bold taste students love with the quality and compliance you trust. 





NEW  
from

VULCAN



CHEF'S **COMBI**

EVERYTHING YOU NEED. NOTHING YOU DON'T.



**VULCAN**

- Intuitive, adaptive control
- Guided automatic cooking
- Advanced climate mgmt for optimal results
- Automatic, efficient cleaning
- Multiple sizes & configurations to meet your needs

[Chef'sCombi Brochure- Click HERE](#)   [Email Tanya for more info](#)





## ***THE MISSING INGREDIENT***

UNLOCK ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES WITH YANGS PERFECTLY SEASONED CHICKEN—NO SAUCE REQUIRED. JUICY, FLAVORFUL, AND READY TO SERVE, OUR CHICKEN MAKES IT EFFORTLESS TO CRAFT FRESH, EXCITING MENU CREATIONS WITHOUT EXTRA LABOR OR COMPLEXITY



### **GF BBQ TERIYAKI CHICKEN STRIPS**

Fully cooked, tender,  
barbecued, gluten free  
chicken strips with no sauce  
SKU 15591-3 Pack Size 8/5#



### **GF SEASONED CHICKEN BITES**

Fully cooked, gluten free,  
seasoned dark meat chicken  
chunks whole muscle  
SKU 15590-6 Pack Size 8/5#

**For more information, please contact:**

**Cindy Husar**

**Regional Director of Sales**

**414.333.5578**

**cindy@yangs5thtaste**





## MRS. DONNA HOOVER

**Title:** Director of Nutrition

**School District:** Hickman Mills C-1 School District

**Food Service Director Since:** 2001

**Family:** Married for 42 years to my best friend. We have 2 amazing children and 1 son-in-law. We have also hosted 7 foreign exchange students.

**High School:** Rockville, MO

**Favorite Famous Person:** Elvis Presley

**What can you eat the most of:** JALAPENOS!

**Most interesting place you have traveled:** Germany

**Hobby or activity you are most passionate about:** In the past years, hunting with my husband. Now my passion is spending time with our grandsons and sitting on a beach!

**How did you get started in the food service business:** I received a phone call from Midway R-1 Schools and they told me their foodservice director has just retired and that I was recommended for the position. At the time, I was a dietary coordinator for Research Belton Hospital.

**If you were not a foodservice director what do you wish you would have been:** Honestly, I don't have another passion as I always say, what other job lets you work with answered prayers? Ever single one of our students is an answered prayer. I truly believe God placed me here to serve. This work is my calling, and I'm deeply passionate about what I do every single day.

# MEET THE DIRECTOR



# MEET THE MANUFACTURER REP. **RED GOLD**



## **Leslie Reeves**

**TITLE: K-12 REGIONAL SALES MANAGER**

**MANUFACTURER REP. SINCE: OCTOBER 2025**

**HIGH SCHOOL: CHATTAHOOCHEE HIGH  
SCHOOL. ALPHARETTA, GA**



### **HOW DID I GET STARTED:**

I fell into the foodservice business.

When I left my first life in sports marketing to follow my then-fiancé to Arkansas, I had to find a new job. I started working for Tyson Foods on the retail marketing business for a couple of years, then moved over to the foodservice side of the business to manage the K-12 marketing. I fell in love with the school nutrition industry and had a blast working with the team to come up with new recipes and marketing campaigns to help schools grow participation and promote the amazing meals they serve every day. I had a great opportunity to move from marketing to sales at Red Gold and have been so excited for the new challenge!

### **WHAT CAN YOU EAT THE MOST OF:**

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES = MY  
BIGGEST WEAKNESS!

### **FAVORITE HOBBY OR ACTIVITY:**

I'd say traveling, but I don't get to do that for fun as often as I'd like.

Between work and travel and now Razorback basketball, the only hobby I have any time for is reading. I love those few minutes I get to just get lost in a story and leave the world behind for a little bit.

### **MOST INTERESTING PLACE TRAVELED:**

I SPENT A SUMMER IN GUAM AND SAIPAN DURING COLLEGE, JUST EXPLORING AND HIKING. THE ISLANDS ARE INCREDIBLY AMAZING! FINGERS CROSSED THAT WE CAN GET BACK TO EUROPE NEXT SUMMER!

### **IF YOU WEREN'T A MANUFACTURER REP. WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO BE:**

I WOULD GO BACK TO OREGON AND NIKE. I HAVE A STRONG PASSION FOR SPORTS AND WORKING WITH THE ATHLETES.





# Lisa Lauer

MEET THE STATE  
EMPLOYEE



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH &  
SENIOR SERVICES**



## MY BACKGROUND

Title: Senior Nutritionist

Family: Husband - David, 3 children -  
Brett, Paige and Lindsey, 2  
grandchildren - Henry and Maggie and a  
third grandbaby due February 14th!

High School: Shawnee Mission East -  
Prairie Villiage, KS

## FAVORITE FAMOUS PERSON

This is a tough question... gonna have to  
say Travis Kelce and Taylor Swift. Lovin'  
thier story!

## WHAT CAN YOU EAT THE MOST OF

Alaskan King Crab Legs!!

## MOST INTERESTING PLACE YOU HAVE VISITED

Thailand - fantastic food and culture!

## HOBBY MOST PASSIONATE ABOUT:

Planting a garden each spring, building  
terrariums, and succulent gardens.

## HOW DID YOU GET YOUR START IN FOOD SERVICE

I suppose my first job in food service was  
working in the concession stand at AMC  
Theatres when I was 15. I made popcorn, hot  
dogs on the roller grill, and the nacho cheese  
sauce for the nachos (I think I still remember the  
recipe). I didn't plan on a career in food service or  
nutrition, but I've always loved to cook, and  
when I took Food Preparation and Meal  
Management in college, I was hooked. I really  
enjoyed the scientific aspect of cooking, and my  
work in the Food Sensory Lab strengthened my  
understanding of food science.

## IF NOT A STATE DIRECTOR, WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO BE

I think I have to answer this question with I wouldn't  
change a thing! I've had opportunities I never  
dreamed of! In my 20+ years since graduation, I've  
developed and hosted cooking classes for hundreds  
of people of all ages. For 16 years, I had a cooking  
segment on WDAF-TV, Fox 4's noon show, preparing  
healthy and fun recipes, which led to a gig as a  
media escort for cookbook authors. These  
opportunities prepared me for the most rewarding  
part of my career, developing nutrition classes,  
materials and resources for schools and early care  
settings across Missouri.



# Meet Our Team



*"Committed to Excellence!"*



**John Pickert**

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(816) 525-7800 EXT. 3





# Quiz Time

Sponsored By:



- 1 What dates are the upcoming Synergy Roadshows and are you registered?
- 2 Who is the Synergy Food Sales Bid Coordinator?
- 3 What is the new product that Rockin'ola launched this year?
- 4 What can a school do if they figure out that will NOT use all of their commodity lbs. with a given processor? Hint... Call the Commodity Queen!
- 5 How much MORE of a NOI rebate does Richland Hills Farms offer per serving vs. our competition?
- 6 Name the new Red Gold K-12 Representative and name the most interesting places she's traveled to.
- 7 Should bid requests be generic, without the manufacturer item number, pack size(s), and estimated usage? (Y/N)
- 8 Who is our featured Food Service Director and what is her professional passion?

Send quiz answers to Tom Hoenig  
[Tom@SynergyFoodSales.com](mailto:Tom@SynergyFoodSales.com)