# SNP Memo #2022-2023-26


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: September 23, 2022

TO: Directors, Supervisors, and Contact Persons Addressed

FROM: Sandra C. Curwood, PhD, RDN, ***Sandy***

## SUBJECT: Office of School Nutrition Programs Staffing Updates

The Virginia Department of Education, Office of School Nutrition Programs (VDOE-SNP) would like to share our staffing updates.

### SNP Staffing Updates

First, please join us in welcoming Matthew Franklin as the newest VDOE-SNP Regional Specialist. Matthew joins us from Henrico County Public Schools (HCPS), where he worked as a School Nutrition Services Field Supervisor since 2013. In addition to his supervisory role with HCPS SNS, Matthew coordinated the Summer Food Service Program for the school district’s summer academics. He recently completed his Bachelor’s degree in organizational leadership and brings over twenty years of hospitality management experience to the field of school nutrition. Matthew is looking forward to supporting the school nutrition programs in the private schools throughout the Commonwealth.

Additionally, Tom Patrick has transitioned to the role of SNP Procurement and Contracts Specialist. Until a replacement SNP Regional Specialist is hired, he will continue to serve as the assigned SNP Specialist for Region 3.

Finally, please welcome Elysia Drummer, the new SNP Special Projects Specialist. Elysia joins us from the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) in Washington, DC, where she worked as the Community Programs Specialist since 2017. Her roles included overseeing The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and managing federal and local grants supporting Child Nutrition Programs. Elysia has her Bachelor’s degree in Nutrition and Food Science from the University of Maryland, College Park, and has over seven years of experience in emergency feeding and Child Nutrition Programs. Elysia looks forward to supporting the initiatives of the VDOE-SNP team.

### SNP Regional Specialist Assignments

* **Region 1**: Kendra Roche (Kendra.Roche@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 2**: Huong Lam (Huong.Lam@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 3**: Vacant interim SNP (Thomas.patrick@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 4**: Karen Howard (Karen.Howard@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 5**: Sabrina Chappell-Strickland (Sabrina.Chappell-Strickland@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 6**: Kenndra Buyalos (Kenndra.Buyalos@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 7**: Sonya Kibler (Sonya.Kibler@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 8 and Public and Private RCCIs**: Denise Clark (Denise.Clark@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Private Schools**: Matthew Franklin (Matthew.Franklin@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Lead Specialist**: Crystal Crutchfield (Crystal.Crutchfield@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Coordinator**: Andrea Nannery (Andrea.Nannery@doe.virginia.gov)

### Child Nutrition Programs Staffing Updates

The Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) team has no staffing updates at this time.

### CNP Specialist Regional Assignments

* **Regions 1 and 8**: Stephen Bewley (Stephen.Bewley@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 2 and 3**: Callie Nickles (Callie.Nickles@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 4 and 5**: Erica Davis (Erica.Davis @doe.virginia.gov)
* **Region 6 and 7**: Alexa Burnett (Alexa.Burnett@doe.virginia.gov)
* **Lead CNP Specialist**: Jon Tirk (Jon.Tirk@doe.virginia.gov)
* **CNP Coordinator**: Maggie Parker (Maggie.Parker@doe.virginia.gov)

### SNP Operations and Support Team Staffing Updates

The VDOE-SNP Operations and Support (Ops) Team provides support to the VDOE-SNP staff and program participants. The team oversees the areas of policy and research, finance, systems (SNPWeb), and procurement.

Please join us in welcoming Kathleen Murphy as the SNP Policy and Research Specialist. Kathleen has a background in legal aid, including work with CEP and school breakfast, and in the legislative process as staff for a state delegate. Kathleen’s favorite aspect of her job is connecting policy and programs to make a difference in peoples' day-to-day lives.

**Ops Team Assignments**

* **SNP Finance Specialist**: Diane Bontoft (Diane.Bontoft@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Policy and Research Specialist**: Kathleen Murphy (Kathleen.Murphy@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Procurement and Contracts Specialist**: Tom Patrick (Thomas.Patrick@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Network Systems Specialist**: Sivagami Solayappan (Sivagami.Solayappan@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Operations and Support Supervisor**: Courtney Jones (Courtney.Jones@doe.virginia.gov)

### Training, Program Improvement, and Grants Team Staffing Updates

The VDOE-SNP Training, Program Improvement, and Grants (TIG) Team provides support to all school and child nutrition programs in the areas of internal and external training and professional development, marketing, farm to school, wellness policies, grant management, and miscellaneous special projects.

### TIG Team Assignments

* **SNP Training Specialist**: Ron Walters (Ronald.Walters@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Training and Marketing Specialist**: Vacant
* **SNP Culinary Specialist**: Vacant
* **SNP Farm to School Specialist**: Bee Thorp (Brittany.Thorp@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Wellness Policy Specialist**: Laura Burns (Laura.Burns@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Regional Projects Specialist**: Vacant
* **SNP Regional Projects Specialist**: John Shoulders (John.Shoulders@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Special Projects Specialist**: Elysia Drummer (Elysia.Drummer@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP TIG Team Supervisor**: Kelly Shomo (Kelly.Shomo@doe.virginia.gov)

### Additional VDOE-SNP Team Members

* **VDOE-SNP Director**: Dr. Sandy Curwood (Sandra.Curwood@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Technical Advisor to the State Director**: Lynne Fellin (Lynne.Fellin@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Lead Administrative Assistant**: Crystal Christmas (Crystal.Christmas@doe.virginia.gov)
* **SNP Administrative Assistant**: Rachel Dancy (Rachel.Dancy@doe.virginia.gov)

For more information, please contact your assigned SNP or CNP regional specialist or the SNP policy mailbox via email at SNPpolicy@doe.virginia.gov.

SCC/AMN/rd