

From: [Cottrell, Megan](#)
To: [Lee, Benjamin](#); [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Fw: Styrofoam
Date: Friday, August 16, 2019 8:19:46 AM
Attachments: [Fiber trays SLT5.pdf](#)

Chairman Lee,

Would you like to add this e-mail to the legislative record?

Best,

Megan E. Cottrell,
Stamford Board of Representatives
District 4
Land Use Committee
Vice Chair of Education Committee
475-489-5435 (texts are better)

From: McGinn, Dawn
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2019 7:23 PM
To: Cottrell, Megan
Cc: Lee, Benjamin; Lucero, Tamu; Lutz, Diane
Subject: RE: Styrofoam

Megan,

Very sorry for the delay in my reply, but was waiting for our vendor to confirm quantities purchased in SY 2018-2019 and our pricing on the paper “pulp” molded fiber tray (spec attached – item 21024 SLT5) alternative to the foam.

Based on the information provided today, it would appear that our cost to purchase like quantities of paper trays for this coming school year will be under the \$80,000 initially reported. Current cost of the molded fiber tray is only \$.052 more than foam, and not the \$.08 previously quoted.

For SY 18-19, SPS purchased approx. 2000 cases of trays from 8/1/18 – 6/1/19, just about 1,000,000 trays. For this same quantity of paper trays, the cost is an additional \$52,000. As our department goal is to continue to grow participation in our school meal programs, and at the same time look for alternate products that are more cost effective and sustainable, I would advise that we plan for a minimum of 15% increase in paper tray use – which would bring the estimated cost projection to approx. \$60,000. Using trays at meals allows our students to take and carry all 5 healthy food components.

We are also working to reduce/eliminate use of plastic straws and will have paper straws available upon request. The cost of a wrapped paper straw is \$.04 each, we will look into an unwrapped straw

and dispenser, but have no historic usage information to provide. Our biggest challenge will be eliminating "Spork" kits (Spork, napkin, straw) in our elementary schools and replacing with plastic forks, spoons, bulk napkins, paper straws only upon request or only for students who require a straw.

Please advise on how to proceed. Our opening orders do include foam trays and spork kits, but once these are depleted, we can transition as directed.

Thank you,
Dawn

Dawn McGinn

Director of Dining Services
Chartwells Stamford Public Schools
(203)977-4732

From: Cottrell, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2019 2:44 PM
To: McGinn, Dawn
Cc: Lee, Benjamin; Lucero, Tamu; Lutz, Diane
Subject: Re: Styrofoam

By "Both Committees" I meant both the Education & L & R Committees, just to be clear.

thanks much,

Megan E. Cottrell,
Stamford Board of Representatives
District 4
Land Use Committee
Vice Chair of Education Committee
475-489-5435 (texts are better)

From: Cottrell, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2019 2:32:08 PM
To: McGinn, Dawn
Cc: Lee, Benjamin; Lucero, Tamu; Lutz, Diane
Subject: Re: Styrofoam

Dawn,

Thanks for all the very good information that you've given us.

Were you able to confirm the \$80,000 number when it came to costs for switching from styrofoam to paper trays?

After speaking with the Chair of the Legislative & Rules Committee, he did say that he thought it would be useful to get a general estimate on costs for completely switching to reusable materials.

We'll also be discussing sustainability in the SPS in September as well, so this information would be useful for both Committees.

As always, your help is greatly appreciated.

Thanks much,
-Megan
Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 25, 2019, at 12:40 PM, McGinn, Dawn <DMcGinn@stamfordct.gov> wrote:

Megan,

We do have a few dish machines in the district – Scofield, Hart, Newfield, Toquam, Old Westover, Rippowam.

Thank you - Dawn

Dawn McGinn

Director of Dining Services

Chartwells Stamford Public Schools

(203)977-4732

From: Cottrell, Megan

Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2019 10:38 AM

To: McGinn, Dawn

Cc: Lucero, Tamu; Della Flora, Olympia; Lutz, Diane; Crocco, Rita; Sharkis, Tom

Subject: Re: Styrofoam

I think your answer about there not being dishwashers at all is good enough for now. I had no idea that we didn't even have dish machines. Thanks for your help on this !

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 25, 2019, at 8:14 AM, McGinn, Dawn <DMcGinn@stamfordct.gov> wrote:

Megan,

1. I will need some time to put together "investment" costs for moving to reusable/washable trays. Facilities would need to be involved. On a very broad level, this would involve purchasing dish machines, facility costs for installing machines and maintaining, additional labor.
2. Now that the school year has ended, I will confirm the \$80,000 number or what our cost would have been for this past year and pricing anticipated for next school year. Will confirm this by end of the week.
3. Trays are the only Styrofoam product used in the school lunch rooms - no cups. We had been using some Styrofoam plates for catering, very small scale, but are using up stock and purchasing

paper going forward.

What is your timeline for receiving the investment costs? And are you expecting a rough estimate or hard costs?

Thank you - Dawn

Dawn McGinn

Director of Dining Services

Chartwells Stamford Public Schools

(203)977-4732

From: Cottrell, Megan

Sent: Monday, June 24, 2019 1:18 PM

To: McGinn, Dawn

Cc: Lucero, Tamu; Della Flora, Olympia; Lutz, Diane

Subject: Re: Styrofoam

Hi Dawn,

Thank you so much for the information. The L & R Committee (along with other members of the BOR, such as myself) appreciated your e-mail and had a few follow-up questions. We'd greatly appreciate your input.

1) Is it possible to use reusable trays in the school cafeterias as opposed to paper trays? What would be the investment costs be of going to reusable, washable trays?

2) We also wanted to confirm that \$80,000 would, in fact, be the increase in cost for completely switching the school system to paper trays. Do you anticipate this cost fluctuating much?

3) Are trays currently the only styrofoam product used in the school lunch rooms? Are styrofoam cups ever used?

Thanks much,

Megan E. Cottrell,
Stamford Board of Representatives
District 4
Land Use Committee
Vice Chair of Education Committee
475-489-5435 (texts are better)

From: McGinn, Dawn

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2019 9:51:50 AM
To: Cottrell, Megan
Cc: Lucero, Tamu; Della Flora, Olympia; Lutz, Diane
Subject: RE: Styrofoam

Megan,

To answer your questions below:

1. Yes, Styrofoam trays are used extensively at lunch especially in the elementary schools where we serve 54% of our lunch meals.
2. To eliminate Styrofoam completely, I cannot answer "when" that would be a District decision. There is a paper or "fiber" option available from our supplier. The cost is 3x that of Styrofoam or .12 vs .04, which equates to approx. \$80,000 in additional supply costs.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Thank you - Dawn

Dawn McGinn

Director of Dining Services
Chartwells Stamford Public Schools
(203)977-4732

From: Cottrell, Megan
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 12:03 PM
To: McGinn, Dawn
Cc: Lucero, Tamu; Della Flora, Olympia; Lutz, Diane
Subject: Re: Styrofoam

Dawn,

Thanks for the very detailed information on the use of styrofoam in school cafeterias. I'm glad you're working to eliminate styrofoam trays at breakfast! Are styrofoam trays used at lunch at all? How long do you think it will be before styrofoam is eliminated completely? What material is used in its place?

Much appreciated,
-Megan
Sent from my iPhone

On May 16, 2019, at 8:24 AM, McGinn, Dawn

<DMcGinn@stamfordct.gov> wrote:

Dr. Lucero,

In the school lunch rooms, we use Styrofoam trays at the Elementary and Middle School levels, not at the HS. This year, we have been working to eliminate styro trays at breakfast and are 99.9% of the way there.

We use approx. 2000 cs / year or 1,000,000 trays.
If you would like any additional information, please let me know.

Thank you - Dawn

Dawn McGinn

Director of Dining Services
Chartwells Stamford Public Schools
(203)977-4732

From: Lucero, Tamu
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 8:04 PM
To: McGinn, Dawn
Cc: Della Flora, Olympia; Cottrell, Megan; Lutz, Diane
Subject: Fwd: Styrofoam

Dawn,

Could you please help answer Representative Cottrell's Question.

Sent from Tamu's iPhone 8+

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Cottrell, Megan"
<MCottrell@StamfordCT.gov>
Date: May 15, 2019 at 7:57:22 PM EDT
To: "Lucero, Tamu"
<TLucero@StamfordCT.gov>
Cc: "Lutz, Diane" <DLutz@StamfordCT.gov>
Subject: Styrofoam

Hi Tamu,

Who would be good at telling me how the schools use styrofoam in the lunch rooms?

I'd like to learn about it, as I'd like to explore the possibility of Stamford scaling back our styrofoam use, much like we did with plastic bags. Please let me know who I should speak to.

I've cc'ed Diane as well as we've spoken with parents about concerns related to recycling and trash in the school system at our Education Committee meetings.

Best,
-Megan

Sent from my iPhone

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Item	Code Name	Item Description	Case Pack	Weight	Case Cube	Case Dimensions			Pallet	
						Length	Width	Height	Ti	Hi
21024	SLT5	Savaday® by Chinet® 5-Compartment Cafeteria Tray 8 1/4" x 10 3/8" x 1"	500	28.47	3.99	18.88	17.00	21.50	6	4
21032	SLT5SW1	Savaday® by Chinet® 5-Compartment Cafeteria Tray 8 1/4" x 10 3/8" x 1" - Shrink-wrapped Bundle	240	11.52	1.44	10.38	14.50	16.50	6	12
21040	SLP5SW	Savaday® by Chinet® Round 5-Compartment Cafeteria Plate - Shrink-wrapped Bundle	250	13.13	2.15	21.25	16.69	10.50	6	9



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