

EFFECTIVE DATA MANAGEMENT MOVES FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE LUNCHROOM

New STI software simplifies state reimbursement of federal lunch funds

MOBILE, ALA. (Jan. 23, 2008) – “What’s for lunch?” That’s often the first question a student asks each school day. Working to ensure daily delivery of a fresh, hot meal are staff members who prepare and serve the meals, and those who manage the budgets that fund the lunch program itself. To support these efforts, STI, a leading provider of education data management systems, is introducing *STI Lunch* to its fully integrated suite of management tools for schools.

The National School Lunch Program provides free and reduced-price lunches to 29 million children each school day. Schools that participate in the program receive cash subsidies and donated commodities from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As the eligibility requirements reveal highly personal family information, several legislative acts require strict confidentiality of all relevant information for participating children. *STI Lunch* helps school staff meet these stringent legal requirements.

STI Lunch is designed to accept a seamless, secure data stream from STI’s next-generation, Web-based student information system, *InformationNOW*, protecting the data integrity and the privacy of students and their families. Creating a nutritionally balanced lunch program is the primary goal, but managers of school food service programs also need to focus on keeping student information private, and on ensuring they provide the government with accurate, timely accounting to collect the reimbursements due to them as program participants. *STI Lunch* supports this effort by automatically creating the reimbursement claim reports for schools and districts.

It also provides for better management at individual cafeteria sites through centralized back-office functions, and system-wide reporting. Administrators can customize *STI Lunch* to support their individual requirements. Its tools for data management, non-perpetual inventory tracking, and payment processing streamline food service management and increase efficiency. And, perhaps most importantly, *STI Lunch* simplifies the process of determining student eligibility each year, as required by federal law, allowing administrators to spend more time on their primary responsibility of developing instruction that improves student achievement.

Functions provided by *STI Lunch* include:

- Records and reconciles student meals and charges
- Imports student photos for positive IDs
- Generates customizable form letters for parents
- Reports on reimbursable meals
- Tracks food and supplies inventories
- Provides reconciliation for all cash drawers
- Substantiates state claims reports

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“We are excited about the security features of this software and the ease with which it captures information from our student information system to facilitate management of the lunch program,” said Rob Fiance, CEO for STI.

Since Title I funds are directly tied to the number of children who qualify for a free or reduced-price lunch, it is mission critical for districts to have the most accurate and secure system available. STI *Lunch* fulfills this mandate easily.

From moving students through lunch lines more efficiently to rolling up inventory and reconciliation reports to district offices, STI *Lunch* is a vital new addition to STI’s comprehensive suite of education data management systems. For more information, visit www.sti-k12.com or phone 800-844-0884.

About STI

STI is a leading provider of *Education Data Management* solutions to the K-12 market. STI’s fully integrated suite of products addresses attendance, scheduling, special education, assessment, discipline, grade reporting, professional development, fund accounting, health, and parent/teacher communications. More than 6,000 schools in 28 states use STI solutions. The company was founded in 1982 and is headquartered in Mobile, Ala. For more information, phone 800-844-0884 or visit www.sti-k12.com.

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