

**CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM**  
**MSAD #31**  
**WE FEED EDUCATION EVERY DAY!**

To: Parents/Guardians;

From: Terry Cummings

Date: August 31, 2016

Re: Community Eligibility "Free Meals to Students"

The Child Nutrition Department is pleased to announce that we will be participating in a pilot program called the Community Eligibility Provision, again this year, which allows our district to provide free lunch and breakfast to our students. Households that receive SNAP or TANF benefits and foster children automatically receive free meals regardless of district CEP participation.

What this means to you is:

- Students may participate in breakfast and lunch at no cost
- Return Parent/Guardian Economic Disadvantage Survey
- A la carte purchases are still available with cash or pre-pay on account
- Students do not need account numbers or ID cards to receive meals
- Students are required to take at least 3 of the 5 food groups offered at lunch
- Students are required to take ½ cup of fruit or vegetable at each meal

**Students that have unpaid balances from last year or previous years are still required to pay those debts. Bills will be sent home with students or by mail and you can call 732-3987 x144 for balance information.**

This provision is being made available through the USDA and with the appropriated funds made available from your local tax dollars. The child nutrition staff continues to strive to make this program work and will make every effort to keep costs down. However, if this program proves to be too costly for the district, or if government regulations limit availability, we will have to revert back to the free, reduced, and paid meal accountability process and you will be required to fill out applications and purchase meals based on application results.



Respectfully submitted:

Terry Cummings  
Food Service Director