



Dear Fayette County Public Schools Families:

Since March, our cafeterias have provided expanded meal services for children and families thanks to a national waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Under those guidelines, our child nutrition employees served 588,753 meals in just four and a half months.

Unfortunately, the federal government announced late last week that they will not extend the waiver, which will reduce the number of children we can serve. Beginning Wednesday, August 26, we will have to follow the restrictions that are in place when children are physically in school. This means:

- Only students currently enrolled in Fayette County Public Schools may receive meals. (Previously, we could feed any child under the age of 18.)
- Meals must run through students' school meal accounts. Qualifying students will receive free meals; others will have to pay. (Previously, meals were free for all.)
- Food can only be distributed for school days. (Previously, we distributed meals for seven days each week.)

Despite these changes, we are committed to serving as many children as possible. In an effort to reach more families, breakfast and lunch will be available at 47 school pick-up locations on Mondays and Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. This is an increase over the 21 school sites previously open and an expansion of distribution windows. On Mondays, we will distribute two breakfasts and two lunches, and on Wednesdays, we will distribute three breakfasts and three lunches.

Meals can be picked up at any location, regardless of where children are enrolled and children do not need not be present. When families arrive to pick up meals, we will help them access their children's accounts. Students who qualify for free or reduced meals and students who attend schools where all children eat for free will receive free breakfasts and lunches. Students who normally pay for meals will be able to deduct the cost from their school meal accounts. Families will continue to be able to make deposits into these accounts.

Fayette County Public Schools will continue to look for ways to serve more children and increase access to food throughout our community. After the school year begins, we hope to add distribution sites at convenient locations throughout our neighborhoods. We are also excited to share that we are making plans to start serving hot meals on pick up days.

Here are some important dates for the next few weeks:

- Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Meal service begins at 47 school sites.
- Monday, August 31, 2020, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Meal service at 47 school sites.
- Wednesday, September 2, 2020, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Meal service at 47 school sites.
- Monday, September 7, 2020: Labor Day, no service
- Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Special one day meal service at 47 school sites.
- Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Resume regular Monday and Wednesday meal service.