

Free Meals for ALL Charles A Beard Students beginning **9/14/2020**

The Charles A Beard Department of Food Services has wonderful news to share! Thanks to a nationwide waiver from the USDA, we have the fortunate opportunity to extend free meal benefits to all students in our school corporation. All enrolled students can purchase one breakfast and/or one lunch per school day **FREE OF CHARGE** effective immediately for an extended period of time. Meals will be accumulated on your student's account and pricing shown as \$0.00. Families will be notified when this waiver is set to expire and meals will have to be paid for again.

What do you have to do?

Absolutely nothing! The Department of Food Services will ensure that all students purchasing meals are receiving this benefit.

Does your child still need their meal account?

Students wishing to purchase a la carte items that are not considered to be part of the regular reimbursable meal will still need available funds to purchase those items. Money can still be deposited to your student(s) meal account via cash/check deposit at school or through My School Bucks.

Do you still need to complete a Free/Reduced meal application if you think you qualify?

This program is currently only in effect until December 31, 2020, or until funding is depleted. After that date, student eligibility status will revert back to either Paid, Free, or Reduced. If you were approved for Free/Reduced, that status remains in effect for the entire school year. Textbook assistance will still require a student to qualify for Free/Reduced via the meal application in order to qualify for assistance.

We highly encourage students to take advantage of the free meals at all Charles A Beard Schools!

Our staff have made the necessary modifications to the way our food is served to ensure that our students are safe and continue to make the school cafeteria a positive part of the students' school day.