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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2020

(Release #2020/21 – 013)

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Free Meals for All Children through Dec. 31



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – On Aug. 31, 2020, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, announced the extension of several waivers that allows the Houston County School Nutrition Program to provide free meals for all children through Dec. 31, 2020. The school district is offering free meals for all children ages 18 and under. Any child, whether enrolled in the district, homeschooled, or too young to be enrolled in school, is able to receive meals at no charge.

Free breakfasts and lunches will be provided for all students who attend school on campus, as well as all other children who live in the community. Parents/guardians may pick up meals at any of the district's middle schools or high schools on Wednesdays between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m.*

For safety and convenience, parents may pick up meals for the entire week using the bus or car rider lane. No reservations are required. The 13 meal sites are: Bonaire Middle, Feagin Mill Middle, Houston County High, Huntington Middle, Mossy Creek Middle, Northside High, Northside Middle, Perry High, Perry Middle, Thomson Middle, Veterans High, Warner Robins High and Warner Robins Middle.

“It was an exciting week when Secretary Perdue announced last week that the USDA will offer free meals for all children through December 31st,” said Meredith Potter, Director of School Nutrition. “It’s our mission to feed children, and this ensures that *all* children will have access to nutritious food. We look forward to serving any child at one of our 13 pickup sites on Wednesdays between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m.”

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mark Scott said, “This USDA initiative supports a stronger, healthier learning environment and is a significant opportunity for families in our community. Our School Nutrition staff love ensuring that children have healthy food and we are very happy to participate and offer free meals to children.”

During the weekly meal distribution, each child will receive 10 meals - five breakfasts and five lunches. Breakfast may consist of granola bars, yogurts, or breakfast pastries. Lunch may include items such as individual pizzas, deli sandwiches, chicken nuggets, or hamburgers. Each meal pack will contain several fruit and vegetable options, as well as juice and milk.

MORE

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For the most up-to-date information about school nutrition, parents are encouraged to visit the School Nutrition webpage, <https://www.hcbe.net/schoolnutrition>, and social media platforms. For more information about school meals, parents may contact the School Nutrition Area Manager, April Bohannon, at April.Bohannon@hcbe.net.

*The pickup time of 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. is a change in time. Previously it was 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

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