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School Food and Nutrition Services of New Orleans, Inc.

DATE: September 3, 2020

TO: All School Principals

FROM: Ellen Gauthreaux
Executive Director
School Food & Nutrition Services

School Food and Nutrition Services (SFNS) is happy to announce that USDA has approved SFNS to serve free lunches and breakfasts (if provided at your school) to all students effective Tuesday, September 8. The USDA is allowing free meals to all children even if they do not qualify for free and reduced-price meals. The program will expire on Thursday, December 31, or until funds are depleted.

Please communicate this information to your parents. In addition, please post on your website and/or Facebook page. SFNS wants to continue to feed your students especially during this difficult time.

School Food and Nutrition Services ensures you that every child will continue to have access to safe, nutritious school meals. Additional information about serving safe during the pandemic will be emailed to you also.

We hope you will continue to support our programs so every child can have the opportunity to grow and learn. Please call or email me at (504)596-3450 or egauthreaux@schoolcafe.org if you have any questions or concerns.

This is a difficult time, but together, we will create solutions and strategies to serve students whether they are dining in the cafeteria, the classroom or picking up their meals to eat at home.

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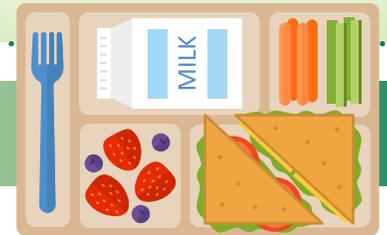
SOMETHING YOU
CAN COUNT ON FOR
2020•21

SAFE, NUTRITIOUS SCHOOL MEALS



In this time of great uncertainty, one thing children and their families can count on is **the availability of healthy school meals** that ensure students are nourished and ready to learn. Research shows the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs play a critical role in supporting academic achievement and combatting childhood hunger and obesity. That's why school nutrition professionals are working to ensure every child continues to have access to safe, nutritious school meals, whether students are attending class in-person, online or a combination of the two.

SCHOOL MEALS ARE SAFE



Food safety is our top priority. **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (CDC), the **Food & Drug Administration** (FDA) and the **World Health Organization** (WHO) all stress that there is no evidence COVID-19 spreads via food or food packaging. Whether meals are served in school or at a grab-and-go pick up location, school meal preparation is conducted in strict adherence with federal, state and local food safety regulations. In addition, CDC and FDA procedures are in place to protect school nutrition staff and the students they serve, including the use of Personal Protective Equipment, additional cleaning of food preparation and service areas, and regular training on proper hygiene practices and food safety measures.

SCHOOL MEALS REMAIN HEALTHY AND NUTRITIOUS

Healthy food fuels students for learning.

That is why school meals continue to meet strict federal nutrition standards during the pandemic. School nutrition professionals are working hard to develop delicious meals that meet federal regulations and can be safely served to students whether they are dining in the cafeteria, the classroom, or picking up their meals to eat at home.



Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.®

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