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Heartland Community Schools

Serving the communities of Henderson & Bradshaw

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September 11, 2020

Dear Parents,

As part of the government's CARES Act, schools and businesses across the country have received grant dollars for expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were just informed that there are funds remaining in the area of providing meals to students. As part of this program, we will offer all students enrolled in Heartland Community Schools free breakfasts and lunches beginning Monday, September 14th.

Here are a few answers to common questions:

•**What do parents or students need to do differently?**

Nothing. We will simply set our prices for lunches and breakfasts to free and seek reimbursement of expenses via this grant program.

•**If we are not on free or reduced lunch, does this apply to us?**

Yes! ALL students, regardless of economic background will receive free meals.

•**Do I need to turn in my lunch application for free and reduced lunches?**

Please continue to submit applications for free and reduced lunches as the percentage of our families that qualify may help us with other grant programs. The deadline for application ends soon and once this current program ends, you will want that application in place to avoid full price meals.

•**Can my child go back for seconds, ala carte items, or receive kindergarten milk?**

They can, but the grant does not cover these items, so you will have to pay for seconds, ala carte items, and milk breaks.

•**How long will my child(ren) receive free meals?**

Until December 31st or until the grant money runs out at the state level. We hope to have enough notice to notify you in advance of reinstating charges.

Charges prior to September 14th will not be forgiven and must be paid as they were accumulated prior to this program. Please let us know if your child will start eating breakfast as part of this program.

Sincerely,

Brad Best
Superintendent of Schools