



Griswold Public Schools

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August 16th, 2022

Notice: School Meal Prices for the '22-'23 School Year

Dear Griswold Public Schools:

As we transition back to normal school operations in preparation for the 2022-2023 school year, Griswold Public Schools have opted in to the School Meals Assistance Revenue for Transition (SMART) funds, providing meals (breakfast and lunch) at **no cost to all students** at the beginning of the school year. **Please note that we will start the year with “no cost for all” students. However, this practice is highly unlikely to continue for all school year, as it is subject to funding available to our school district. We will notify the district shortly after September 1st, 2022, when costs for meals will be reactivated and the “no cost for all” ends.**

Since the availability of meals at no cost will expire when all available funds to Griswold Public Schools have been exhausted, it is critical that households submit a free and reduced-price meal application as soon as possible to determine a student's eligibility for this school year and to avoid unpaid meal charges. All Griswold Public Schools Food Services information, including applications, can be found at [the Food Services website by clicking here](#).

Completing and submitting an application will also help us raise additional funds to help us make meals available to all students at no cost as long as possible. The district will notify parents and guardians of the date when students who are not directly certified or have no approved application on file will be expected to pay for their meals. Note: Households that do not submit a free or reduced-priced application or whose child is not directly certified, will automatically switch to full pay when the SMART funds conclude.

By visiting our Food Services website, you can learn more about free and reduced-price meal benefits and detailed instructions for the application process. **NOTE:** Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) or Medicaid (HUSKY A) benefits *may* be directly certified and automatically eligible for free meals without applying for benefits. (Some children who receive Medicaid (Husky A) benefits *may* also be directly certified and automatically eligible for *reduced-priced* meals.) Questions regarding SNAP/TFA/Medicaid and direct certification should be sent to the determining official, Colleen Sweet, at 860-376-7672.

If you have received a NOTICE OF DIRECT CERTIFICATION for free or reduced-priced meals, **do not complete** an application unless instructed to do so by the district. Let the school know if any children in your

household are not listed on the **Notice of Direct Certification** letter you received, since free or reduced meal benefits are extended to all children in a household when directly certified.

Additionally, all school-aged children in income-eligible households can receive school meal benefits regardless of a child's immigration status and the district/school does not release information for immigration-related purposes in the usual course of operating the Child Nutrition Programs.

Should you need additional information or assistance processing your paperwork, do not hesitate to contact Colleen Sweet at 860-376-7672.

We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean P. McKenna". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools