

# Meal guidelines are announced

Farmington Public School District has announced its policy for free meals and reduced price meals for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch.

Local school officials have adopted the following family size and income criteria for determining eligibility.

- For a family size of 1 — \$16,474 free meals and milk — \$10,213 reduced price meals.
- For a family size of 2 — \$18,738 free meals and milk — \$12,432 reduced price meals.
- For a family size of 3 — \$10,998 free meals and milk — \$15,651 reduced price meals.
- For a family size of 4 — \$13,280 free meals and milk — \$18,870 reduced price meals.
- For a family size of 5 — \$15,522 free meals and milk — \$22,089 reduced price meals.

- For a family size of 6 — \$17,784 free meals and milk — \$25,308 reduced price meals.
- For a family size of 7 — \$20,048 free meals and milk — \$28,527 reduced price meals.
- For a family size of 8 — \$22,308 free meals and milk — \$31,746 reduced price meals.

Each additional family member plus \$2,262 for free meals and milk and \$3,216 reduced price meals.

Children from families whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free meals or reduced price meals.

Application forms are being sent to all homes in a letter to parents. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. This information may be verified at any time during the school year. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. To apply for benefits, households should complete the application provided by the school and return it to the school as soon as possible.

Under the provisions of the policy J. Michael Howard, food service supervisor, will review applications and determine eligibility. If parents are dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, they may make a request either orally or in writing to Scott Bacon, 32500 Shawnee, Farmington 48024, 471-6306 for a hearing to appeal the decision. The policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure.

For the school officials to determine eligibility, the household must provide the following information listed on the application: Names of all household members; Social Security numbers of all adult household members or an indication that the household member does not possess one; total household income by source for each household member; and the signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct. Households are required to report increases in household income of over \$50 per month or \$600 per year and decreases

in household size. Food Stamp Program households may provide their case number instead of income information on the application.

To discourage the possibility of misrepresentation, the application forms contain a statement above the space for signature certifying that all information furnished in the application is true and correct. An additional statement is added to warn that the application is being made in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, that school officials may verify the information in the application, and that deliberate misrepresentation of information may subject the applicant to prosecution under applicable State and criminal statutes.

In most cases, foster children are also eligible for these benefits. If a family has foster children living with them and wishes to apply for such meals for them, they should follow the instructions provided on the application and contact the school if they need additional information.

Children of unemployed parents may qualify for free or reduced price meals if total family income including welfare payments, unemployment compensation and subsidy benefits fall within the prescribed family income guidelines.

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