



Nauset Public Schools

78 Eldredge Park Way, Orleans, Massachusetts 02653
Phone: 508-255-8800 • Fax: 508-240-2351 • <http://nausetschools.org>

Thomas M. Conrad
Superintendent of Schools

Keith Gauley
Assistant Superintendent

Mary Buchanan
Director of Student Services

Giovanna B. Venditti
Director of Finance and Operations

Eileen Belastock
Director of Technology and
Information

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Dear Parents:

The start of school this year looks a little different for everyone. I wanted to share with you some good news schools nationwide received last week. The USDA extended a waiver allowing schools to serve **free breakfast and free lunch to ALL students through December 31, 2020**. We are thrilled with this news! All students of the Nauset Public Schools will receive daily a nutritious breakfast and lunch for free. The District will be able to support all students in school and at home during this time period.

What does this mean for our students, their families and the Nauset Public Schools?

- All children ages 0-18 years of age are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch every school day at no cost and in a safe and welcoming environment. This applies to students who are attending classes in school, virtually at home, or a hybrid combination of these models.
- **Meals for children who are remote learners at all schools will be available at the Nauset Middle School for pick up daily Monday through Friday between 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or between 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the side of the building near the Middle School greenhouse.**
- It allows the Nauset Public Schools to provide students with meals that are nourishing and appetizing. When students participate in the program, their participation helps the District to receive Federal funds. The more meals served, the more funding the District receives. This in turn allows our program to focus on meal quality, variety and innovative practices (new recipes, frozen take home meals, etc.). We encourage everyone to participate in the program this year!
- Participation in the program will save time and money. Let us do the planning and preparation of all the meals for you.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has requested that the USDA extend free meals for all students for the entire year; however, currently the USDA has only allowed this waiver through December 31, 2020. Families should still submit a household application to determine their eligibility for free and reduced priced school meals. This will also allow students to qualify for any additional benefits and ensure a seamless transition when schools move back to a paid program (if the waiver is not extended again for the period January to June 2021). The application is available to download at nausetdiningservices.org or lunchapplication.com. A paper copy may also be requested by emailing Janet Daley at daleyj@nausetschools.org.

We continue to encourage families to apply for SNAP benefits as well. SNAP provides monthly cash benefits (on an EBT card) to purchase groceries for eligible families. To apply for SNAP, visit www.startwithsnap.org or call the Project Bread FoodSource Hotline at 1-800-645-8333. If you are unsure whether your family is eligible, the FoodSource Hotline can assist you with eligibility questions. Families approved for SNAP are directly eligible to receive free meals at school and do not need to fill out an application for free and reduced price meals.

All elementary and middle school students will be eating breakfast and lunch in their classrooms. The cafeteria staff will be delivering the meals to the classroom to be ready at each of the designated meal times. Students will be able to place their lunch order in their classroom first thing in the morning. **All students who are remote learners and families may pick up meals at the Nauset Middle School daily between 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily or 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

We understand that some families may not be able to pick up meals during the school day. We are providing an additional pick up time later in the day for your convenience. If you or someone in your family is unable to get to one of these times at the Middle School in Orleans, please email Janet Daley at daleyj@nausetschools.org or call her at 508-255-8800 ext. 7000 to make other arrangements.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you might have. The Nauset Food and Nutrition staff is here to assist and provide all students with delicious and nutritious food!

Best,

Susan Murray, SNS

Director of Food & Nutrition Services