



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PGCPS Free Meals Program to Continue Through  
End of 2020-2021 School Year Following Extensions**

*Children 18 years of age or younger eligible for free meals through program*

PRINCE GEORGE, Va. - Prince George County's Public Schools' Free Meals Program will continue through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year following action by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that extended a number of flexibilities to program operators, allowing them to continue serving free meals to children well into next year.

Following new extensions issued in October, PGCPS will be able to serve both breakfast and lunch at all of the district's schools and to our virtual-remote learners 18 years and younger at no cost to families through June 30, 2021.

As previously announced, elementary students will have breakfast and lunch provided at stations in their school's hallway for children to "Grab-N-Go" to take back to their classrooms. Friday's meals will be given to children on Thursday afternoon to take home for Friday. Secondary students will continue to travel through their school's serving and snack line with physical distancing measures in place to reduce the spread of COVID-19. All pin pads are now electronic and items will be provided to students at the cashier, allowing for a fully contactless experience for students and staff.

For families with 100% virtual-remote learners, PGCPS Food and Nutrition Services will continue to provide meals to those families during Friday distributions. Breakfast and lunch will be provided and children 18 years of age and younger are eligible for the program. Children do not have to attend a Prince George County school to qualify. In order to participate, families must complete the 100% Virtual Learner Meal Pick-Up Form weekly by the Sunday prior to the Friday pick-up. Families are asked to select the school that is closest to them to pick up their meals as it aids in preparing the correct amount of meals to serve students. The "Grab-N-Go" service at each school's cafeterias on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1

p.m. The meals will be available for pick-up on a first come, first served basis. Families are encouraged to bring a tote bag with them to collect their meals.

The 100% Virtual Learner Meal Pick-Up Form is available on the district's website and PGCPS Food and Nutrition Services' website (<http://www.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/index.php?sid=1464113827674>).

Meals will not be served on non-instructional days. Please consult the [PGCPS 2020-2021 School Year Calendar](#) for specific dates of school closures and holiday observances.

“Prince George County Public Schools is pleased to be able to continue serving meals to children free-of-charge to their families thanks to the USDA program extensions,” **PGCPS Division Superintendent Dr. Lisa Pennycuff said.** “As we continue to navigate our new normal, our commitment to providing healthy meals to our children remains unchanged as these meals support both their daily nutritional needs and overall health.”

Families with questions can contact Joanne Moyer with Prince George County Schools Food and Nutrition Services at 804-733-2710 or visit the department's website.