

HANOVER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Ashland, VA 23005

School Year 2014-2015

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE HIGH SCHOOL MEAL CREDIT PROGRAM

The food service operations at all four Hanover county high schools do not participate in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs, and do not receive state or federal reimbursement of any kind. The operation is supported entirely by the sale of food items. This system allows students to select from a wide array of individual food items of their choice, as well as daily specials. Food items are priced individually and the total cost of a student meal depends on the items selected. The menu mix changes daily and a selection of hot and cold sandwiches and entrees, salads, side dishes, beverages, and desserts are for sale. A listing of prices is available from the cafeteria manager at each school.

The county high schools do offer a credit program for students who may need financial assistance with their meals. In order for a high school student to qualify for a credit toward the cost of breakfast or lunch, **they or their household must receive food stamps, and/or Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) from the Department of Social Services. Foster, group home, and refugee children also qualify for meal credits. There is no qualifying for meal credits under income guidelines. If you were approved for meal credit last year, you must reapply by September 30, 2014 to keep benefits for this year.**

If extraordinary circumstances or events affecting the income of your household apply to your current situation, please contact an administrator at your child's high school to discuss the possibility of being approved for meal credit privileges on a temporary basis.

Meal credits of \$1.40 for breakfast and \$2.70 for lunch are available for the 2014-2015 school year. Assistance is given for a meal only – one sandwich, salad or entrée, and one beverage, as a minimum (i.e., credit may not be used for the purchase of just beverages, side dishes, snacks, or dessert items). **The balance of the cost of the meal once the credit is applied is the responsibility of the student to pay for in cash. Unfortunately, the meal credit system does not allow the use of a prepayment to the student's account.** We encourage you to talk with your student about selecting foods wisely to help them eat a balanced diet.

If you are interested in applying for the meal credit program, complete the application attached to this letter and return it to the school as soon as possible. Information provided on the application may be verified with the Department of Social Services. The information you provide will be treated confidentially and will be used only for eligibility determination and verification of data. You will be notified by your child's school if your high school student is approved for the meal credit. **Again, reapplications for meal credit status are due by September 30, 2014 for the 2014-2015 school year.**

Contact the high school or the central food services department (365-4566) at the school board office if you have any questions about the application for meal credit.

HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR MEAL CREDIT**2014-2015****(Do not use for Elementary or Middle School Students)**

Please complete all requested information, any omission may cause a delay in determining a child's eligibility for the meal credit. Complete a separate form for each high school student. The form must be signed by a parent or guardian.

A. **Student Name:** _____ **ID Number** _____
Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **School:** _____ **Grade Level:** _____

B. Parent/Guardian/Full Name: _____
 Social Security Number (last four digits): _____
 Address: (if different from student's address): _____

 Home Phone _____ Business Phone: _____

(You do not have to give social security numbers, but if you refuse, your child may not receive meal credits. The social security numbers may be used to identify you for verifying the information you report on this application).

C. Check and complete all items below that currently pertain to the student named above.

1) _____ Foster Child/Group Home Resident/Refugee

2) _____ TANF (Temporary Aid Needy Families) payments are currently received for this child. **On the line below, state the complete TANF number:**

3) _____ This child is a member of a household that currently receives Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits (formerly Food Stamps.)
On the line below, state the complete SNAP Case Number (not EBT card number):

D. Release of Information by Welfare/Social Services Department for Verification Purposes:

I hereby authorize the Hanover County Department of Social Services to provide verification to the Hanover County School Board of the receipt of TANF payments for the above named student, Foster Child status for the above named student, or receipt of SNAP benefits for the household of the above named high school student. It is further understood and agreed that there may be a periodic verification of eligibility for these benefits and that a copy of this form may be provided to the department of social services.

E. Signature:

I certify that the information provided above is correct and that the Hanover County Department of Social Services is authorized to verify benefits claimed on this application.

 Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date : _____