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December 22, 2023

Dear Families,

I have a very exciting update to our school lunch program. We had previously shared that Standing Stone Elementary had been invited to join a community eligibility program at the start of the school year which made it possible for students to receive free breakfast and lunch under a pilot program for the 2023 school year.

I am proud to announce that this will be expanded to two more of our district schools. Southside Elementary and Huntingdon Area Middle School. Beginning on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 the students in these two buildings will receive free breakfast and lunch daily during a pilot for the 2023 school year as well. A La Carte and extra items are not included in the program.

The reason for this change is numbers can be reviewed and eligibility could change for any one of our schools throughout the year. We were monitoring and took full advantage of the new options that became available to us.

You may be wondering what to do if your child has money in an existing account at this time. You have options to leave the funds in the account for extra items, transfer to another of your children's accounts, or request a refund on the amount. If you wish to discuss any of these options, please contact Ellen Riley at 814-641-2192 or email [jriley@huntsd.org](mailto:jriley@huntsd.org)

At this time unfortunately, the Huntingdon Area High School does not qualify for participation. Again, we will continue to monitor and if something changes we certainly will work to add this school to the programming as well. As discussed previously, free breakfast and lunch for students is a political topic federally and at the state level. We, as a community, can continue to advocate and let our government representation know our community could use support for all children, not just buildings or groups of students who might follow under the current guidelines.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Mitchell

Superintendent