

September 25, 2025

Dear Caledonia Families,

We hope this message finds you well as we settle into the 2025-26 school year. This important update concerns school meals and Michigan's free breakfast and lunch program.

As of this writing, the State of Michigan has not yet finalized its 2025-26 budget. Therefore, funding for the free breakfast and lunch program runs out with the end of the 2024-25 budget on September 30, 2025. As a result, the district is taking the following steps:

- Breakfast and lunch will remain free for all students through September 30, 2025.
- As of October 1, 2025, unless a state budget is in place that includes the "Free for All" program, we will begin charging for school meals. In that event, meal prices will revert to those from the 2023-24 school year. Those prices are as follows:
 - Breakfast (all schools) \$1.45
 - Elementary Lunch: \$2.40
 - Middle School Lunch: Type A \$2.65, Meal Deal \$4.00
 High School Lunch: Prices range from \$2.65-\$4.00

What Families Need to Do

- If we must begin charging for meals on October 1st, **families will need to have added funds through the <u>Family Portal online system</u> prior to that time.** The district uses this tool that allows parents/guardians to make deposits, check balances, view food purchasing history, transfer funds between family members, and set account restrictions 24/7. **The following informational videos are available to assist in this process:**
 - o Creating a Family Portal account
 - Adding funds through Family Portal
- Families are encouraged to complete the Free & Reduced meal application to potentially
 qualify for free or reduced meals. Completing the application helps Caledonia Community
 Schools receive important state and federal funding that supports instructional staff, student
 services, classroom materials, technology, professional learning, and more.
 - o Apply online: https://caledonia.familyportal.cloud/
 - Prefer paper? Print the <u>2025/2026 Free and Reduced lunch application</u> and return it to your school office, or call, and we'll mail one.

Questions? Contact Katie Bos or Beth Strzyzewski in Food Service at 616-891-0227.

Once the state budget is approved, we'll share further updates. Thank you for your continued partnership!

Sincerely,

CCS Administration