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****IMPORTANT UPDATE****

Free School Meals Extended Through SY 2022-2023

August 25, 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We want to update you with exciting news about universal free school meals. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has decided to extend free school meals for all students through the 2022-2023 school year! This means that breakfast and lunch will continue to be served at no cost to all students. However, a second meal is not free. The cost for a second meal is \$3.50 for all students.

Please note that even though meals will be free for all, it is very important for families to still complete the household Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals for the 2022-2023 school year.

Applications are available on our website <https://carver.org/carver-home/lunch-program/>. You do not have to submit an application if you have already received a notice of Direct Certification. We strongly encourage ALL families to submit this form as it allows us to establish eligibility for P-EBT benefits and serve families most effectively.

In addition, please consider applying for SNAP, the federal nutrition program that provides eligible residents with monthly financial assistance to purchase groceries. More SNAP information can be found at gettingsnap.org or by calling Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline at 1-800-645-8333.

The food and nutrition department at Carver Public Schools thanks you for your patience awaiting this news! As always, we are grateful for the opportunity to provide nourishing and healthy meals to all Carver students so please reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Theresa Vernazzaro

District Director of Food & Nutrition Services

