

No-Cost Breakfast for ALL Students

VIERA, FLORIDA – Brevard Public Schools (BPS) announces its plan to continue to provide a **no-cost** breakfast to all students under the national School Breakfast Program. All Brevard County schools operate under Provision 2 guidelines and will continue to offer a healthy breakfast everyday at **no-cost** to all enrolled students, regardless of economic status, during the 2011-2012 school year. Brevard County has offered no-cost breakfasts to enrolled students since 2001.

The School Breakfast Program promotes the increased consumption of high quality, nutritious, agricultural products from Florida. Studies have shown students participating in the School Breakfast Program have improved attendance and punctuality, increased attention and memory recall and improved math, reading and standardized test scores.

During the 2010-11 school year, Brevard County Food and Nutrition Services served over 3.5 million breakfasts at no cost to Brevard County students. If you have any questions about BPS' no-cost School Breakfast Program, please contact Mr. Jimmie C. Johnson, District Operations Manager for Food and Nutrition Services, at 321-633-1000 extension 690.

National School Breakfast Program

The School Breakfast Program is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. It began as a pilot project in 1966, and was made permanent in 1975. The School Breakfast Program is administered at the Federal level by the Food and Nutrition Service.

School districts and independent schools that choose to take part in the breakfast program receive cash subsidies from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for each meal they serve. In return, they must serve breakfasts that meet Federal requirements, and they must offer free or reduced price breakfasts to eligible children. Most of the support USDA provides to schools in the School Breakfast Program comes in the form of a cash reimbursement for each breakfast served. In the 2010-2011 school year (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011), basic cash reimbursement rates for non-severe need were:

- Free breakfasts \$1.48
- Reduced-price breakfasts \$1.18
- Paid breakfasts \$0.26

Schools may qualify for higher "severe need" reimbursements if 40% of their lunches are served free or at a reduced price in the second preceding year. Severe need payments are up to 28 cents higher than the normal reimbursements for free and reduced-price breakfasts. About 74

percent of the breakfasts served in the School Breakfast Program receive severe need payments. Higher reimbursement rates are in effect for Alaska and Hawaii.

For information on the operation of the School Breakfast Program and all the Child Nutrition Programs, contact the State agency in your state that is responsible for the administration of the programs. A listing of all State agencies may be found at www.fns.usda.gov/cnd, select "Contact Us" then select "Child Nutrition Programs".

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