



March 29, 2022

Dear Caledonia Community Schools community,

With universal free meals slated to end on June 30, 2022, Caledonia Community Schools is encouraging families to reapply for free and reduced meals for the upcoming school year. This year many families benefited from receiving free meals and the district saw the benefit to our students through increased participation in our food service meal programs.

We understand that many families have relied on their children eating breakfast and lunch at school so we wanted to provide families with as much advance notice as possible about these changes. This program not only eases the burden on families to pay for school meals but also provides funding for our schools.

- Building and district-level free and reduced lunch numbers are used by the Federal Government to determine "At Risk" funding which ultimately impacts staffing at Caledonia Community Schools. Positions such as our Counselors, Family Engagement Coordinator, Reading Interventionists, Title I Paraprofessionals, and more are often completely or at least partially funded and impacted by these dollars.
- We submit our free and reduced numbers to the Federal Government in June and they use this information to determine our federal funding for the next school year. This is why we still need families to [fill out the application](#) this year if they qualify, even though there has been free lunch all year.
- It allows students to qualify for free SAT fee waivers and free test reports.

We anticipate receiving new applications this summer and the district will send out additional communication to families when forms are available for the 2022/2023 school year. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Food Service Department at 616-891-0227.

Sincerely,

Mimi Mahaney-Stalzer  
Food Service Director