



Media Contacts:

Kathy O'Hara

Office of Communications and Media Relations

Office: 757.628.3459

kohara@nps.k12.va.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2020

NPS develops meal plan to feed students during governor-ordered closure

NORFOLK, VA – Norfolk Public Schools (NPS) Department of School Nutrition has completed a waiver to provide meals in non-congregate settings **starting Tuesday, March 17, 2020, running through Friday, March 20, 2020, and continuing Monday through Friday of the following week, March 23-27, 2020.** This is in response to Governor Ralph Northam's order on Friday, March 13 to close all of the state's schools at least through March 27, 2020.

Currently, Norfolk Public Schools has identified 12 schools as meal distribution sites. These sites have been selected based on geographical areas that will represent and cover the entire city.

The school sites are:

Azalea Gardens Middle (7721 Azalea Garden Road, 23518)

Booker T. Washington High (1111 Park Avenue, 23504)

Camp Allen Elementary (501 C Street, 23505)

Coleman Place Elementary (2445 Palmyra Street, 23513)

James Monroe Elementary (520 W. 29th Street, 23508)

Lake Taylor School (1380 Kempsville Road, 23502)

Norview Elementary (6401 Chesapeake Boulevard, 23513)

Oceanair Elementary (600 Dudley Avenue, 23503)

P. B. Young (543 E. Olney Road, 23510)

Southside STEM Academy at Campostella (1106 Campostella Road, 23523)

St. Helena Elementary (903 S. Main Street, 23523)

Suburban Park Elementary (310 Thole Street, 23505)

School Nutrition staff and other NPS staff will be stationed at the school sites listed above between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to distribute "grab-n-go" meal bags on a first come, first served basis. The meal bags contain one complete breakfast and one complete lunch, pre-packed by School Nutrition staff, and will be provided without charge, one per child. Children must be present to receive a meal bag. The bags are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, and there will be no discrimination during the course of the meal service.

If it becomes necessary to extend the closure an additional week, meal services will be provided through Friday, April 3, 2020.

This effort is being funded as part of the Summer Meals Program. As of February 29, 2020, NPS had 23,132 students eligible for free and reduced meals. According to School Nutrition Senior Director, Lisa Winter, the division serves approximately 14,000 breakfasts and 19,000 lunches per day.

NOTE: Due to rapidly changing circumstances, the school sites' times and dates are subject to change. Updates will be posted on the NPS division webpage and social media channels.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at [How to File a Complaint](#), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

###