Dodge County School Nutrition Program to Participate in Community Eligibility Provision

MEDIA CONTACT: Dena Barrows

August 1, 2018 – Eastman, Georgia – Dodge County School Nutrition Program has participated in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) for Free Meal Reimbursement since beginning implementation in School Year 2018/2019. Through CEP, a school district, a group of schools or a single school may offer meals at no charge to all students. This eliminates the procedure of distributing and processing meal applications.

We are so excited to be able to offer the students at Dodge Pre K, North Dodge Elementary, South Dodge Elementary, and Dodge County Middle Schools the opportunity to eat at no cost every day. Dena Barrows, School Nutrition Program

The Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 includes the implementation of CEP to insure that every student in low-income neighborhoods and/or districts can participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). To qualify, a district or school must have 40 percent or more of its students eligible for free meals based on direct certification.

By participating in CEP and eliminating the need for meal applications, Dodge County School Nutrition Program reduces administrative and printing costs. Families also benefit from the elimination of completing and submitting meal applications.

CEP has been available to the entire country since School Year 2015.

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- (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.

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