

2013-2014 LETTER TO HOUSEHOLDS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **Galax High School** offers healthy meals every school day. Student breakfast costs **\$1.20** and lunch costs **\$1.60**. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price breakfast costs **\$0.30** and lunch costs **\$0.40**. All meals served must meet standards established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. However, if a student has been determined by a doctor to be disabled and the disability prevents the student from eating the regular school meal, the school will make substitutions prescribed by the doctor. If a substitution is prescribed, there will be no extra charge for the meal. If your student needs substitutions because of a disability, please contact **the school nurse** at **Galax High School** for further information.

Children who are members of households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (formerly the Food Stamp Program) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are eligible for free meals regardless of income. Foster children who are the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court are eligible for free meals regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. Children who are members of households participating in WIC may also be eligible for free or reduced-price meals based on the household's income. If your total household income is at or below the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines, shown on the chart below, your child(ren) may get free meals **or** reduced price meals. Your child(ren)'s application from last school year is only good for the first few days of this school year. **YOU MUST SEND IN A NEW HOUSEHOLD APPLICATION FOR EACH SCHOOL YEAR.**

HOW TO APPLY

Households that are receiving SNAP or TANF for their children as of July 1 may not have to fill out an application. School officials will notify you in writing of your child(ren)'s eligibility for free meal benefits. Once notified your child(ren) will receive free meals unless you tell the school that you do not want benefits. **If you are not notified by 8/15/2013, you must submit an application.** The application must contain the names of all students in the household, the SNAP or TANF case number, and the signature of an adult household member.

If you do not receive SNAP or TANF benefits for your child(ren) complete the application and return it to the school division. If you do not list a SNAP or TANF case number for the child(ren) you are applying for, then the application must have the names of all students, the names of all other household members, the amount of income each person received last month, and how often the income was received. An adult household member **must sign the application** and include the last four digits of the social security number. If the person does not have a social security number, check the box provided indicating none. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.

If you are applying for a foster child, who is the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court, an

application is not required. Contact (*approving official*) at (*phone number*) for more information. If you are applying for a homeless, migrant, or runaway child, an application may not be necessary. Contact (*homeless liaison*) at (*phone number*) for more information.

INCOME CHART For Free or Reduced Price Meals			
Effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014			
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1	21,257	1,772	409
2	28,694	2,392	552
3	36,131	3,011	695
4	43,568	3,631	838
5	51,005	4,251	981
6	58,442	4,871	1,124
7	65,879	5,490	1,267
8	73,316	6,110	1,410
For Each Additional Family Member Add	\$7,437	\$620	\$144

An application that is not complete cannot be approved. An application that is not signed is not complete. You must send in a new application each school year.

