



Dear Greater Clark Families,

NUTRITION

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our students to the 2023 – 2024 school year! We hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready and excited to be back in school. We, as Aramark Student Nutrition, are pleased to be your school district's food service provider.

To help prepare for your child's return to school, we want to remind you that as of June 30, 2022, the federal waiver which was administered through the USDA that allowed us to serve free school breakfast and lunch to students regardless of household income has expired. Please take a few moments to visit the link below and apply for free / reduced meals. We encourage every family to apply.

Ensuring that students are well fed throughout the school day is our top priority. Out of the 30 million lunches that were administered through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) prior to the waivers, almost three-quarters of those were provided either at no charge or at a reduced price. We want to remind and inform families to take advantage of these meal benefits. Income eligibility guidelines are available through the Food and Nutrition Service of USDA.

As we reopen for the new school year, Aramark Student Nutrition is *Powering Potential* for students and faculty with innovations in our menus and enhancements to our overall dining operations. When your child dines with us, rest assured that we will be serving delicious, nutritious meals prepared with the utmost attention to safety. We encourage every student to *fuel up* with breakfast and lunch each day so they will be energized and prepared to succeed throughout the day, in and out of the classroom. Check out our daily menus and nutritional information at

Please encourage your students to eat breakfast and lunch every day. The demands of the classroom can be difficult for children who are hungry. Studies indicate students who eat breakfast can concentrate better, earn higher grades, and have fewer illnesses\*. We offer various breakfast programs depending on your child's school – either in the cafeteria, on breakfast carts in the hallway or in the classroom – to ensure students can start the school day right!

(\*Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). "Breakfast for Learning." Spring 2014.)

To further enhance our commitment to the health and wellness of our students, please like or follow our student nutrition face book page for healthy tips, menu ideas and other important communication. You can find us at

We look forward to working for you to create a healthy learning environment for all students. To apply for free or reduced-price school meals, please visit <u>www.nlappscloud.com</u> If you'd like more information, you may call our office at 812-283-0701, email us at <u>bwoodring@GCCSchools.com</u> or check the district website for the latest news and updates.

Sincerely,

Beverley Woodring Food Service Director Aramark Student Nutrition