

While the return to school this fall is not what any of us envisioned, I want to assure you the Freetown-Lakeville food service department is working hard to create a welcoming and safe environment to provide healthy meals for all our students. We are so excited to see your children and provide them with nourishing and nutritious food that will support them, both in school and at home.

As we are awaiting guidance from the USDA (the federal agency that oversees the nation's school lunch and school breakfast program) which allowed all schools in the US to provide meals at no cost to all students. Massachusetts understands the vital importance of providing meals at no cost for all students across the state and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has requested that the USDA extend free meals for all students for the upcoming school year. We will provide an update as soon as more details become available.

Please note that all schools will <u>not</u> be accepting cash payments this year, we encourage all families to prepay for meals at https://www.payschoolscentral.com, or send in a check with their student. Each school will be handling meal service a little differently to start the school year so we will be sending separate letters with specifics for each school, all meals however will be pre-packaged with all necessary components.

Lunch menus for September are available at: www.freelake.org/district/financial-operations/food-services

Please reach out with any questions you might have. Your children are the reason we do our jobs and we are here to make sure that they are fueled with good food!

Best,

Andrea Fay

Foodservice Director

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