

Press Release #44/2019-20

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 16, 2020 Contact: David Mustonen, Communications Director

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## Dearborn Schools offering free breakfast and lunch pickup for students at six sites

Dearborn Public Schools is offering free pickup lunch and breakfast for students while school is closed for the mandatory shut down over the next three weeks.

Families will be able to stop in and pick up a bag with both breakfast and lunch for each child in the family. Pickups will run daily from 10 a.m. to noon starting tomorrow, March 17 at Fordson, Edsel Ford and Dearborn high schools, McCollough-Unis, Salina Intermediate, and Woodworth Middle School.

Signage at each site will direct parents and students where to enter the building. Food will be near entrances to minimize the amount of time community members spend in the facilities.

Please note, meals are available to anyone age 18 and younger. Students do not need to be present, and the Dearborn School student does not need to attend at that building. A designated person can collect meals for multiple children. Meals for Saturday and Sunday can be picked up on Friday.

The program will allow the District's 20,700 students to continue to have access to healthy food. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer last week ordered all Michigan schools closed from March 16 through April 3 to slow the spread of novel coronavirus and cases of COVID-19. Dearborn Schools is scheduled for spring break April 6 to 10, so school will not resume in the District until April 13.

The grab-and-go meals will be served at least through April 3.

Superintendent Glenn Maleyko praised the District's food service team for quickly implementing this drastic change in service to meet the needs of families.

"We appreciate the patience of our families and community as we all try to adjust to this sudden change from closing schools," Dr. Maleyko said. "More than three quarters of our students qualify for free or reduced priced school meals. We realize this food is important to our families, many of whom may be facing additional financial hardships from the sudden economic changes related to COVID-19."

Check the Dearborn Public Schools website at <a href="www.dearbornschools.org">www.dearbornschools.org</a> for any updates or changes to the meal program or for other issues regarding the school closure.

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