



## A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

1300 North Main Street  
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Dear Parents and Guardians,

The school meals program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, school corporations across the country have been operating with the use of a federal waiver that allowed them to feed every child for free through the end of the 2021-2022 school year. The use of this waiver will not be available after this school year and corporations will return to the traditional eligibility requirements for free, reduced and paid meals. This means that for School Year 2022-2023, Wa-Nee Community Schools will process free and reduced-price meal benefit applications.

The Indiana Department of Education – School and Community Nutrition does have the ability to Directly Certify students who receive SNAP, TANF, some Medicaid, are certified as homeless, migrant, or are wards of the state (foster children). Households who are found to be directly certified will be notified in writing of the free or reduced-price meal status prior to the start of school and will not need to complete an application.

Meal benefit applications will not be available until after July 1\*. Households are encouraged to apply before the start of the 2022-2023 school year to avoid unpaid meal charges. Students who are not approved for free or reduced-price meal benefits before the start of the school year will be classified as paid status and meal charges will begin to accumulate starting the first day of school. Meal charges accrued before the approval of a meal benefit application will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

**You will NOT need to complete an application if:**

- You receive notification that your child(ren) are directly certified.
- You know your household does not qualify for meal benefits. However, we do ask that you please be sure to deposit money in your child's account prior to the first day of school to avoid unpaid meal charges. You may do this simply by
  - sending in money to school with your child to be deposited weekly or monthly, or
  - by using your Skyward Family Access account and visiting the RevTrak web store. When using Skyward Family Access, you can choose to deposit money as needed in your child's account or you may choose to set up the Auto-Replenish option to ensure our child always has money in their meal account.

\*Applications received prior to July 1 will not be effective for the 2022-2023 school year.

Thank you,  
Wa-Nee Community Schools  
Food Service Department

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider*