## **Free and Reduced Meal Application Guidelines**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Free and Reduced Price school meals are available to families who believe they qualify. Only one application needs to be completed for all students in the household. Families choosing to apply for meal benefits have two different options: Online Application or Paper Application. For faster processing, an online application is recommended; the process is safe, secure, private, and available anytime, anywhere.

<u>Online Application</u> – Please follow the steps below to complete an online application.

- 1. Log into your SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS account
- 2. Click on Food Service
- 3. Choose the down arrow next to the "all students." If you have more than one child, you only need to select one of your students.
- 4. Click Application
- 5. Fill out all required information on the application
- 6. Click the submit button

<u>Paper Application</u> – If an online application cannot be accessed, a paper application may be obtained in any of the following ways.

- You may pick up an application in the Administration Office or any of the School Offices.
- Contact Doris Johnson (information below) to have a paper application mailed to you.

Completed applications should be dropped off or mailed back to Administration Office:

Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation 1806 W. State Road 234 Fortville, IN 46040

Students with free/reduced meal status from the previous school year are granted a temporary 30 day carry-over meal status. Before the 30 day grace period is expired, a new application must be submitted in order to continue receiving free/reduced meal benefits. If a new application is not submitted within the first 30 days of school, your status will default to a regular paid lunch. You will be notified by mail of your child's status. Until notification you must provide your child with a lunch or lunch money. *Applications must be filled out every year*!

Please contact Doris Johnson if you have any questions related to meal applications:

Email: <a href="mailto:doris.johnson@mvcsc.k12.in.us">doris.johnson@mvcsc.k12.in.us</a>
Phone: 317-485-3100 ext. 5109.

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the <u>USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form</u>, (AD-3027) found online at: <a href="http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html">http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html</a>, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
  1400 Independence Avenue, SW
  Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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