

August 1, 2024

## Dear Parents/Guardians:

This memo is intended to encourage you to fill out and return the Free and Reduced Price Meal Application you will find in your child's packet. Many of the state and federal level funding sources we are dependent upon for our sources of revenue are based partially or entirely upon our Free/Reduced Meal level. In other words, the higher our level of Free/Reduced students, the more dollars we get to spend here at Richards!

Sometimes parents/guardians are hesitant to fill this form out and return it. Rest assured no child ever suffers any negative effects from qualifying for this status.

## INFORMATION ON FREE AND REDUCED PRICED MEALS

The computer software in the cafeteria keeps track of each student by a number. When a student gives his or her number at the checkout stand, their number is punched into the computer. The child's number is recorded only in the computer as to whether the student is on the full price, reduced price, or free meals depending on their meal status. This is a very discrete process and no student, teacher or cafeteria worker can distinguish which students qualify for free, reduced or full priced meals. If you are interested in seeing if you would qualify for this program be sure to fill out a Free/Reduced meal application at the beginning of each school year because this status cannot be made retroactive nor carried over from one school year until the next.

Thanks again for your help! If I or any of the staff members can be of assistance to you, do not hesitate to contact us!

Dr. Melonie Bunn, Ed. D. Superintendent Richards R-V School District

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