MEMORANDUM

To: All District and School-Level Administrators and Teachers
From: Dr. Marcia Oglesby, Director, Grants & Partnerships
Through: Mrs. Jennifer Caracciolo, Interim Chief DCEIP
Date: November 7, 2025
Subject: *Funding Focus Friday*: Walmart Foundation's *Healthier Food For All* Fights Hunger

Here's a timely opportunity to strengthen academics and reduce food insecurity for our students and families. The Walmart Foundation's Healthier Food for All (*HFFA*) invests in organizations that expand access to healthy food and build confidence in selecting, preparing, and serving nutritious meals, especially in underserved communities.

Walmart and Sam's Club have thousands of locations within 10 miles of about 90% of Americans. Both organizations promote access to nutritious food through philanthropy. Since 2006, they have donated over 7.5 billion pounds of food to *Feeding America* networks.

What kinds of projects fit the HFFA Initiative?

- Food-rescue capacity: serving school pantries & weekend backpack programs (refrigeration, cold-chain carts, routing tech, agency training) to move more fresh food to families. Walmart & Feeding America grants are currently funding these upgrades (e.g., refrigerated vans, staffing, tech) at food banks—easy to align with school-based distribution
- "Food-as-Medicine" pilots: Connects school health teams with local providers to create prescriptions, medically tailored food boxes, and track outcomes. HFFA focuses on accelerating food-as-medicine programs and supporting research.
- Benefits access + digital enrollment support: SNAP/WIC navigation kiosks in front offices, text nudges, family workshops, aligning with HFFA's emphasis on user-friendly technology for nutrition benefits.

Who can apply & how?

- HFFA Grant Eligibility Overview. For more information, click **HERE**.
- **Local Spark Good Grants:** Schools are eligible; organizations must serve the same service area as the facility you apply to (store/club). Awards typically range from $250 to $5,000 and pair well with school-level pantry needs, small equipment, or kickoff events.
    - Must set up a *Spark Good* account on Walmart.com/nonprofits to apply.
- **Larger Grants**: Walmart accepts concept notes only for the "Healthier Food for All" focus area and reviews them on a year-round basis. If there's interest, they invite a full proposal. The recommended pathway is to submit via a qualified 501(c)(3) partner (e.g., the DeKalb Schools Educational Foundation) in close collaboration with DCSD.
    - Email a one-page concept that outlines the target schools & families, core activities, measurable outcomes (i.e., attendance & SEL), evaluation plan, and a rough budget.

The Walmart Foundation's Healthier Food for All initiative is another opportunity to enhance student engagement, attendance, and well-being while making healthy food more accessible to all DCSD families during these uncertain times.

Remember to follow the DCSD Grant Guidelines and work with Grants & Partnerships to coordinate the next steps. We are here to support you in shaping your ideas and strengthening your submissions. To begin your application, have questions answered, or get experienced advice, email us at grantsandpartnerships@dekalbschoolsga.org.

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Need more grant inspiration and options? The complete, searchable Monthly Education Grants Alert (*MEGA*) for November 2025 is now available **HERE.**

Good luck!