

Letter to Households for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

School Year 2026-27



GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

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August 19, 2026

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are pleased to inform you that Groton Public Schools will be implementing a program available to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Programs called the **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**.

What does this mean for you and your children attending the schools identified below?

Great news! All enrolled students of Groton Middle School, Mystic River Magnet School, Thames River Magnet School, and Catherine Kolnaski Elementary School are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at **no cost** to your household each day of the school year. Your children will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit a meal application.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact us at (860) 449-7208.

Sincerely,

Ernie Koschmieder

Director of Food Services, Groton Public Schools

(860) 449-7208

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race,

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color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted 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; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.