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## **Lincoln Park Public Schools provides students nutritious meals during summer vacation**

*District oversees 10 “Meet Up and Eat Up” sites, distributing nearly 20,000 breakfasts and lunches at no cost to parents*

**Lincoln Park, Mich.** – As part of its commitment to ensuring students have access to healthy and nutritious meals throughout the summer and school year, **Lincoln Park Public Schools** operates 10 Meet Up and Eat Up sites that offer no-cost breakfast and lunches each day of summer break. Participation in the USDA’s summer food service program has allowed the district to distribute almost 20,000 meals during the summer of 2018. LPPS has participated in the program since 2006.

“Proper nutrition plays a huge role in a student’s ability to learn and achieve regardless of the time of year,” said **Terry Dangerfield**, Superintendent of Lincoln Park Public Schools. “Hungry students struggle to learn, which is why we’re proud we can provide our students with healthy, nutritious options for breakfast and lunch that will fuel their learning and development during these long summer days.”

The LPPS Meet Up and Eat Up program offers children 18 years old and younger or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in LPPS’ Special Education Program no cost nutritious breakfast and lunch options.

**Mark Rodriguez**, Lincoln Park’s food service director oversees 10 sites with locations across Lincoln Park, Southgate and Melvindale. Adults can also purchase meals for \$2.

All meals follow guidelines provided by the national school lunch program. There are five components to each meal: two ounces of protein, two pieces of bread, fruit, vegetables and milk. Students are allowed to decline any item and are not required to take all five components.

“Research shows many students who receive free and reduced meals at school often don’t have access to quality meals during the summer,” Rodriguez said. “Many of our students depend on these meals to get them through summer days that might be filled with summer school, sports or other activities. Many students benefit from this program every summer and I’m proud to be part of this important effort.”

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