

720 Payne Ave Saint Paul, MN 55130

Phone: (651) 796-4500 Email: contact@hope-school.org

Website: www.hopecommunityacademy.org

June 2, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Many children in Minnesota rely on free or reduced-price school meals, and when schools closed statewide due to COVID-19, these children were missing an important source of nutritious food. To compensate, the federal government has approved Minnesota to issue Pandemic EBT: a **ONE-TIME** payment of \$325 food benefit for families with children who would have otherwise received free or reduced-price school meals.

Families are eligible for P-EBT benefits if they have a child or children who were between the ages of 5 and 18 as of Sept. 1, 2019, and:

- Their child's school is closed due to COVID-19; and
- They were receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) benefits as of March 18, 2020; and/or
- Their child was enrolled in school and receiving free or reduced-price school meals during the 2019-2020 school year; or
- Their child is enrolled in a school that offers free school meals to all students.

How will I get P-EBT?

Eligible families who had an open SNAP or MFIP case as of March 18, 2020, will receive P-EBT benefits automatically on their existing Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards. They do not need to request a different card or take any action.

Eligible families with children who received free or reduced-price school meals in the 2019-2020 school year or attended a school that offers free school meals to all students – but who did not have an open SNAP or MFIP case as of March 18 – must apply online application at www.mn.p-ebt.org **between June 8 and June 30, 2020**. If approved, families will receive a Minnesota P-EBT card in the mail within 10 business days with instructions to activate the card. All eligible families will receive P-EBT benefits as long as they apply by June 30.

Who to call with questions?

P-EBT Hotline: 651-431-4050 or 800-657-3698 (Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm)

- Assistance applying
- Eligibility requirements or general P-EBT questions
- Status of application

Phoua Yang: 651-276-6275 Cindy Yang: 651-707-3639