

SURRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

NEWS RELEASE

Tracey H. Lewis, Ed.D., Director of Communications
P.O. Box 364
Dobson, North Carolina 27017
336/386-8211 Cell: 336/401-1873 Fax: 336/386-4756
E-Mail: lewist@surry.k12.nc.us

For Immediate Release

July 11, 2018

DOBSON, NC - Surry County Schools' School Nutrition is implementing a NEW, **online** free and reduced lunch application for the 2018-2019 school year. This is an exciting new feature for families. Parents will now be able to access a secure website that will be linked on school web pages and the Surry County Schools website. This link will be made available on **August 1, 2018**.

The online application is convenient, easy to complete, and is very similar to the paper application that has been used in the past. Once complete, the application will be sent from a secure website directly to School Nutrition. Families will not have to worry about filling out a paper form that could be lost or misplaced. In addition, the online process will ensure confidentiality and privacy, while enabling School Nutrition to review completed applications faster than before.

Families that are directly certified through North Carolina's Food and Nutrition Services (FNS or Food Stamps) will continue to receive a letter stating they are free and do not need to apply for meal benefits. Each student will **no longer** need to receive a free and reduced meal application. Families will receive a letter with instructions to either complete the online application or they may pick up a paper application at their child's Open House, or in the front office of their child's school as in previous years.

"We are excited to offer the new, web-based application for parents and guardians. We encourage families to make sure they create an account so they can complete the application at their convenience. The online application will speed up the process of applying for meal benefits and it is easy to use. The School Nutrition staff is always happy to help if you need assistance", shared Mrs. Sherri Parks, Director of School Nutrition.

Parents who need help with completing the online application may contact School Nutrition at 336-386-8211 or their child's school.