



PRESS RELEASE

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Surry County School Nutrition Offers Free Summer Meals

The school year is out and summer meals are in! Each year, the US Department of Agriculture partners with local organizations like Surry County School Nutrition to provide free meals to children when school is out for the summer. Around the country, places like schools, recreation centers, parks, and churches are serving free, nutritious summer meals to kids up to 18 years old.

Surry County School Nutrition opened its free summer meal program on June 13th. Meals are prepared at Meadowview Magnet Middle School and are transported all over the county to 28 sites. Meadowview Magnet Middle cafeteria also operates the free, open site. During the opening week, the School Nutrition staff served over 2,300 meals and snacks to children throughout Surry County. Last summer the School Nutrition program served 25 sites and over 21,000 meals and snacks.

The School Nutrition program continues to support education in the summer by feeding students participating in reading programs and STEM camps. Community organizations such as Surry Parks and Recreation and the Armfield Center also benefit from free summer meals.

“We would not be able to operate our camps without the summer feeding program. Surry County School Nutrition offers a quality program from top to bottom. The staff, food, and organization is a perfect fit for us. Many of our campers come to us hungry. The summer feeding program is making a big difference in our community,” commented Bradley Key, Program Coordinator for Surry Parks and Recreation.

Anyone age 18 and younger may stop by the Meadowview Magnet Middle School cafeteria between 11:00 – 12:00 pm for a free meal. The program ends on July 26th and will be closed on July 4th. Visitors should use the student athletic entrance and park outside the gym. The cafeteria is located beside the gym.

Free summer snacks are also provided for the mobile reading book bus sponsored by Surry County Schools Educational Foundation and Flat Rock Elementary. Children can join volunteers and teachers on the bus to read and have a snack. The mobile reading book bus will be available three Tuesdays in the month of July on Tuesday, July 2nd, July 9th, and July 16th at the following times and locations.

- 9:00 - 9:20 Shelton Church of the Brethren
- 9:25 - 9:45 Sheila Street
- 9:50 - 10:10 Mt. Herman Church
- 10:15 - 10:45 Gaylon Street and Eleanor Avenue
- 10:50 - 11:10 Badgett Avenue
- 11:10 - 11:30 Crosswinds Development
- 11:35 - 11:50 Flat Rock Baptist Church

Director of Surry County School Nutrition, Mrs. Sherri Parks stated, “We are extremely proud of our program and School Nutrition staff. The summer meal program supports local organizations that help children grow academically, socially, physically and developmentally. Planning begins in early spring and the logistics of the program require a tremendous team effort. It is very rewarding to be able to help children and families year round.”

Surry County School Nutrition staff participating in this year’s summer meal program are Penny Stewart, Sherry Boles, Robin Dollyhigh, Sharon Hodge, Lisa Pell, Alisa Hutson, Miranda Cockerham, Brandy Bondurant, and Angie Knott.

Pictured are **Left to Right** Brandy Bondurant & Lisa Pell Packing Meals, **Front to Back** Miranda Cockerham and Alisa Hutson Rolling Meals Out, **Front to Back** Lisa Pell and Miranda Cockerham Rolling Meals to Van for Transport, and **Left to Right** Lisa Pell and Miranda Cockerham Load Van to Transport Meals to Off-Site Locations



