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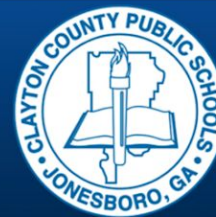
# NEWS RELEASE

*CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CCPS Continues Community Eligibility Provision Program**

**JONESBORO**— Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) will continue to implement the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Program in School Year 2019 - 2020. Through CEP, every school in the district will offer meals at no cost to all students. This eliminates the procedure of distributing and processing meal applications. CCPS recertified its CEP participation in 2018, and it is set to conclude on June 30, 2022.

“Reports indicate that the past seven years of operating as a CEP school district has shown a significant impact in the number of students choosing to eat meals in the cafeterias throughout the district,” said Audrey Hamilton, Director of Nutrition Services. “We know our decision to become a CEP school district would benefit our students greatly. We are confident that the meals we serve supports student health and academic achievement,” she added.

The Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 includes the implementation of CEP to ensure that all families, those that do and those that do not qualify for services, receive meal benefits through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). To qualify, a district or school must have **40 percent or more** of Identified Student Percentage (ISP) to be eligible for meals at no cost over a four-year period. CCPS’ current ISP is 58.12% slightly down 4.09% since 2018.

The program has a number of benefits to the school district and its stakeholders. CEP eliminates the need for meal applications and reduces administrative and printing costs. Families also benefit from the elimination of completing and submitting annual meal applications. CEP supports household budgets throughout Clayton County by providing free meals for all students.

### **Non-discrimination statement**

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027), which can be found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- Mail:
  - U.S. Department of Agriculture
  - Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
  - 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
  - Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- Fax:
  - (202) 690-7442; or
- Email:
  - [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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### **About Clayton County Public Schools**

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by AdvancED – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 55,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the fifth largest school system in Georgia.

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