



**HICKORY**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Hickory Public Schools  
432 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, SW  
Hickory, North Carolina 28602

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**TO:** All HPS SCHOOL FAMILIES and STAFF  
**FROM:** Director of Communications, Beverly E. Snowden  
Hickory Public Schools, 828.322.2855,  
snowdenbe@hickoryschools.net  
**SUBJECT:** Coronavirus Update from Hickory Public Schools/Child Nutrition  
**DATE:** March 16, 2020

### **Coronavirus Update from Hickory Public Schools Monday, March 16, 2020 / CHILD NUTRITION**

To All HPS Families:

Hickory Public Schools is moving forward through uncharted waters. While we may not have all answers to your questions at this time, we are doing our best to share any updates with our families and employees. Information is changing quickly, sometimes daily, and at other times, hourly. We thank you for your patience and your partnership as we work to support you—our families, while providing the most up-to-date information.

HPS will address multiple topics today, but at the top of our list is **Child Nutrition**. None of our students should go hungry during the two-week mandated closing of schools. Therefore, we are offering the following community opportunities and schedules for HPS families, with students in need (pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade), to pick-up meals through a drive-thru program set-up at two elementary schools: **Longview and Viewmont**. Please review the following information:

#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT:**

**First, our community is stepping up to help our children with meals—and we are extremely thankful for their partnership.**

- **All Hickory-area McDonalds/ Drive Thru ONLY (Monday-Friday):** Free meals from 11:00 am – 2:00 PM for any student 12 years old or younger while Hickory Public Schools is closed: The meal includes a cheeseburger, hamburger, OR chicken nuggets with small French Fries, yogurt OR sliced apple.
- **PORCH:** HPS families with food insecurities. All you need to do is provide your child's name and the school. Pick-up of food supplies on **Tuesday, March 17, at the PORCH facility** (the old Thrifty Lion store) in Longview. Each bag is valued at approximately \$50 worth of groceries. **Pick-up time for the HPS families is from 5:00 PM-6:30 PM.** **PORCH IS IN NEED OF DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS!** Donations from the community (non-perishables foods that are not out-of-date) may be dropped-off from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM. **PORCH address: 2505 1st Avenue, SW, Hickory--near the old Longview Elementary and close to the Long View Fire Department.** **Questions about PORCH,** email: [hkyporch@charter.net](mailto:hkyporch@charter.net)
- **BackPack Program/Student Participants** (Elementary & Middle School Students): Food supplies will be available for all HPS elementary and middle school students who participate in the BackPack Program. The one-time pick-up (to cover the two weeks) is scheduled during the drive-thru at Longview Elementary and Viewmont Elementary on **Thursday, March 19 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.**

**MEALS PROVIDED by Hickory Public Schools —  
BREAKFAST & LUNCH for HPS students with needs:**

- Starting on **Tuesday, March 17, 2020**, meals will be provided for any HPS student who is need of food assistance from **11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at either Longview Elementary or Viewmont Elementary.**
- These meals are designed for ALL HPS students (pre-K-12) who have food insecurities.
- HPS is offering a drive-thru/pick-up for daily meals (during the school days, only) while school is closed.
- **Longview Elementary and Viewmont Elementary** will serve as the pick-up locations for meals for students. A team will be available to deliver the meals directly to your car. You will not need to come into the school.

(Food Supplies / USDA—An equal opportunity provider and employer)

*Thank you to everyone for your assistance!*