

**School Administrative Unit No. 80**  
*Serving the Communities of Belmont and Canterbury*

**Shaker Regional School District**  
**58 School Street**  
**Belmont, NH 03220**

Dear Parent/Guardian

The beginning of each school year is an exciting time for our students, full of hope and promise of new adventures and expanding knowledge. Studies have shown that children who skip meals are less productive and have a harder time paying attention than children who do not skip meals. We want to ensure that each of our children will be ready to learn this year.

In New Hampshire there are approximately 14,000 school-aged children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (formerly the Food Stamp Program), or getting TANF, yet only 20% of those are on the Free or Reduced Meals program. Our goal is to have 100% of our eligible students on this program. To that end, please keep in mind the following if you are unsure of whether you want to apply for this program:

1. Information is kept confidential on the Point-of-Sale System. No child's free/reduced/or full pay status can be identified when they go through the serving line.
2. If you have a letter from the Department of Health and Human Services showing certification you do not need to complete the application – just attach the letter(s) to the application.
3. Only one application is required per household – but the application must be complete with all required information in order for us to process the application.
4. If you do not wish to send the application in to the school you may send it to the SAU Office directly to the attention of Diane Clary. You may contact our office at 267-9223 if you would like to receive a self-addressed stamped envelope for the submission of the application.
5. Children who qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch also qualify for Free or Reduced Breakfast, however they do not qualify for Free or Reduced Snack Milk.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

*W. Michael Cozort*

W. Michael Cozort; Superintendent of Schools