

## Free Meals Going Away in 2022-2023 School Year

In March 2020 when COVID-19 began spreading across the U.S., millions of families faced economic uncertainty. With the help of Congressional funding, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) began offering all students breakfast and lunch, at no charge. These waivers expired June 30, 2022, and Liberty-Benton students are returning to the 2022-2023 school year to pre-pandemic operations.

To continue to receive the free and reduced cost meals, we encourage our families to apply for free/reduced meals for the 2022-2023 school year. **Completing the application also helps the possibility in the reduction or waiving of school fees.** Applications are available at liberty-benton.org by clicking on District, then District Forms or simply by visiting [www.payschoolscentral.com](http://www.payschoolscentral.com). There is no cost for families to register and apply online. Hard copies will also be available at each school building when the school year begins.

Breakfast and lunch prices for the 2022/2023 school year are as follows:

- Elementary, Middle School, High School Breakfast: \$1.40
- Reduced Breakfast: \$.30
- Elementary K-5 Lunch: \$2.70
- Middle School 6-8 Lunch: \$2.75
- High School 9-12 Lunch: \$2.80
- Reduced Lunch: \$0.40