MAHONING VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Jennifer B. Merritt, School Administrator

Public Release
Media Release for Free and Reduced-Price Meals
Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

The **Mahoning Valley Community School** announced today a change to its policy for serving meals to children served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program for the *2026-2027* school year. Schools qualifying to operate the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) provide breakfast and lunch to all children at no charge and eliminate the collection of meal applications for free, reduced-price, and paid student meals. This new approach reduces burdens for both families and school administrators and helps ensure that students receive nutritious meals.

FREE HEALTH CARE: Families with children eligible for school meals may be eligible for FREE health care coverage through Medicaid and/or Ohio's Healthy Start & Healthy Families programs. These programs include coverage for doctor visits, immunizations, physicals, prescriptions, dental, vision, mental health, substance abuse and more. Please call **1-800-324-8680** for more information or to request an application. Information can also be found on the web at http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers/familychild.stm. Anyone who has an Ohio Medicaid card is already receiving these services.

For additional information please contact the following person:

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

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