

BOARD BRIEF

Date: August 2, 2019

For ACTION _____

For INFORMATION X

Board Agenda: No X

FROM: Cynthia R. Hormel, Director School Nutrition Services

THROUGH: Mignon Anthony, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Ramee A. Gentry, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) at Cora Kelly and William Ramsay

SUMMARY: The intent of this memorandum is to inform you that the ACPS School Nutrition Program will be implementing a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) at both Cora Kelly Elementary and William Ramsay Elementary beginning this school year (2019-2020).

BACKGROUND: School Nutrition Services (SNS) supports the educational mission and instructional programs of ACPS by providing nutritious meals to students and staff. It is a priority of the Alexandria School Nutrition Program that all students throughout the district, regardless of their paying status, have equal access to receive nutritionally-balanced meals as part of the federal USDA meal program. This fall, CEP will be adopted at Cora Kelly and William Ramsay.

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a key provision of The Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010, allows the nation's highest poverty districts and schools to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications. This alternative saves time and money by streamlining paperwork and administrative requirements. Because all students receive meals at no charge, individual children at CEP schools no longer have to worry about the stigma associated with free or reduced price status. And most importantly, by offering all students a nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost, CEP helps boost participation, helping schools ensure more students come to class well-nourished and ready to learn. For more information, visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/community-eligibility-provision>.

Not only does CEP allow food service professionals more time to focus on preparing nutritious meals their students will enjoy, but it gives students more time to eat these meals by cutting down on time spent in the lunch line. We hope that Cora Kelly and William Ramsay will enjoy having CEP in their schools in an effort to connect more students to nutritious school meals.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends the School Board reviews the information contained in this brief.

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