

Dear Families,

The Connecticut State Department of Education has partnered with the Connecticut Department of Social Services to implement the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program (P-EBT). The P-EBT Program provides eligible households with an EBT debit card that contains the cash value of one school breakfast and one lunch for each day that school classes are canceled due to COVID-19 (\$5.70 per day per child). Eligible households include those whose children are certified to receive free or reduced-price school meals, and children who attend schools that offer free school meals to all students. Families with eligible children will receive their P-EBT Card in the mail with instructions between late May and mid-June. No registration or application necessary.

During this difficult time, many households may be experiencing hardships due to the loss of a job or income. EASTCONN would like to remind all parents/guardians that they may be eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. SNAP helps people buy food for themselves and their families. Additionally, eligibility for SNAP benefits means that a child will be directly certified for free meals at their school, which will carry over for 30 operating days into the next school year. Please consider applying for SNAP benefits using this link: SNAP website.

If you have any questions about meal eligibility at school, please contact Heather Plourde at 860-455-1552 or email <a href="mailto:hplourde@eastconn.org">hplourde@eastconn.org</a>.

Be Well.

Heather A. Plourde

Director of Food & Hospitality Services