



COLLIER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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SEE BELOW FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF FREE MEAL SITES FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

NEWS RELEASE – “FREE MEALS FOR KIDS OFFERED THIS SUMMER”

The saying “there is no such thing as a free lunch” won’t apply this summer when Collier County youth, 18 and younger, will get a free lunch as well as a free breakfast for the asking. As a sign of tough times, principals have told Collier Superintendent Dennis L. Thompson that they've noticed many students appearing to be hungrier than ever before during their school breakfast and lunch hours, especially on Monday morning, indicating that students go hungry while at home over the weekend. The feeling was if they are hungry on Mondays now, they will be hungry during the summer when not in school. Dr. Thompson was concerned about how needy students would have adequate meals this summer. District officials took the concern to the Collier County Parks & Recreation Department to see if they would consider expanding their existing program – a program that, in partnership with the school district, has provided free meals to needy children in past years.

Parks & Recreation, in collaboration with the school district, found a way to expand the feeding program to include any youth, 18 or younger. It’s the “Kids’ Cafeteria” program. Free breakfasts and lunches will be available each weekday at 30 sites, most from June 8 thru August 13. The program is similar to the National School Lunch Program, providing nutritionally balanced meals to needy children during summer vacation when school breakfasts and lunches are not available. The program is only approved for geographical areas of need where 50% of the children there are economically needy, qualifying for free or reduced-price meals during the school year. Golden Gate Estates, for example, does not qualify because the economically needy population there is less than 50%. To learn more, contact Camden Smith at Parks & Recreation at 252-4000 or via e-mail at camdensmith@colliergov.net. Or call Jim Thomas at North Collier Regional Park at 254-4064.

SCROLL DOWN FOR LIST OF 30 FREE MEAL SITES

Greater Naples Area – All 6/8/09 thru 8/13/09

<u>Location</u>	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Calusa Park Elementary School 4600 Santa Barbara Boulevard	8:00 am	12:30 pm
East Naples Community Park 3500 Thomasson Drive	9:00 am	12:00 pm
Golden Gate Community Center 4701 Golden Gate Parkway	9:00 am	12:00 pm
Golden Gate Elementary School 4911 20 th Place SW	8:30 am	12:00 pm
Golden Gate High School 2925 Titan Way	7:30 am	11:00 am
Golden Terrace Elementary School 2711 44 th Terrace SW	8:15 am	12:00 pm
Grace Place 4300 21 st Avenue SW	8:15 am	11:45 am
Manatee Elementary School 1880 Manatee Road	8:30 am	12:00 pm
Naples Park Elementary School 685 111 th Avenue N	7:45 am	11:45 am
Parkside Elementary School 5322 Texas Avenue	7:45 am	11:00 am
Poinciana Elementary School 2825 Airport Road	8:00 am	12:00 pm
Sugden Regional Park – Sailing (on left) 4284 Avalon Drive	9:00 am	12:00 pm
Sugden Regional Park – Skiing (on right) 4284 Avalon Drive	9:00 am	12:00 pm
Veterans Community Park 1895 Veterans Park Drive	8:30 am	12:00 pm

Greater Naples Area – Other Dates

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Naples Christian Academy 3161 Santa Barbara Boulevard	6/8/09 – 7/17/09	8:45 am	11:45 am
Unity Faith Missionary Baptist Church 1620 39 th Street SW	6/15/09 – 8/13/09	8:30 am	12:00 pm

Immokalee Area – All 6/8/09 thru 8/13/09

<u>Location</u>	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Bethune Education Center 614 South 5 th Street	8:00 am	12:00 pm
Highlands Elementary School 1101 Lake Trafford Road	8:15 am	12:00 pm
Immokalee Community Park 321 North 1 st Street	8:15 am	12:00 pm
Immokalee South Park 418 School Drive	10:00 am	1:00 pm
Village Oaks Elementary School 1601 SR 29	8:30 am	12:00 pm
Carson Lakes 3432 Carson Lakes Circle	8:00 am	12:00 pm
Independence Allegiance Way	9:00 am	12:45 pm
Timber Ridge 2726 Wilton Court	7:45 am	11:00 am
Oak Haven 580 Oak Haven Circle	9:00 am	12:00 pm
Pinecrest Elementary School 313 South 9 th Street	8:30 am	11:30 am
Immokalee Sports Camp 505 Escambia Boulevard	9:00 am	12:00 pm
Sanders Pines 2449 Sanders Pines Circle	9:00 am	12:00 pm

Immokalee Area – Other Dates

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Immokalee Middle School 401 North 9 th Street	6/15/09 – 7/30/09	7:30 am	11:30 am

Everglades City – Other Dates

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Everglades City School 415 School Drive	6/8/09 – 7/16/09	7:30 am	11:30 am