



CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
Dave Sheehan, 799-5304

August 13, 2009

Free and Reduced Lunches available to qualified students

LAS VEGAS – The Clark County School District (CCSD) is reminding qualified families to sign up for the Free & Reduced Lunch Program (FRL) for the 2009-2010 school year. Last year, more than 140,000 CCSD students qualified for this important program. It's expected that number may grow to approximately 145,000 for the new school year.

Numerous studies show a correlation between proper student nutrition and performance. For many students, their free or reduced price lunch may be the only nutritious meal they receive on any given weekday.

The school district is working with community agencies, organizations and media outlets this summer to spread the word about the importance of parents filling out the FRL form and doing so correctly.

Parents may apply for benefits at any time during the school year. If parents are not eligible now, but have a decrease in household income, become unemployed or have an increase in family size, they can fill out an application at that time.

Students who qualify for free or reduced price lunch also qualify for a free or reduced price breakfast. Breakfast is available at all schools prior to school starting each day.

According to Charles Anderson, director of CCSD's Food Service Department, the FRL form must be filled out annually, even if a household qualified last year. Anderson said many parents mistakenly think that once an application has been approved, it continues to be valid every subsequent year. However, a new application – specific to each school year – must be completed and submitted to the Food Service Department through the school or via U.S. Mail. These forms, in English and Spanish, also are available at the Back to School Fairs being held in August.

For eligibility requirements associated with FRL, go to <http://ccsd.net/foodservice/1-NSLP.html>.

###