



# CHADWICK-MILLEDGEVILLE

## Community Unit School District #399



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Providing students with healthy and nourishing food is a very important part of our school's mission. We know that without food, students cannot learn. Unfortunately, the pandemic continues to impact all aspects of our lives including our ability to provide students with the food service that we have all come to expect at Chadwick-Milledgeville.

Throughout the country, food services departments that supply our schools are experiencing staffing vacancies and supply disruptions. Additionally, just as you might have noticed in the grocery store, there are food items that are currently not available to us that would normally be part of our daily school lunches.

Please know that we are working diligently to address food shortages with our distributor and/or find other alternatives. Since Chadwick-Milledgeville's food service is governed by federal purchasing regulations we are not able to immediately move to another distributor or go to a local store to purchase the food that is needed to serve our students. Additionally, since this is a nationwide issue, most distributors and stores have the same shortages that we are currently experiencing.

We are focused on addressing these issues locally, and our national food service organization is communicating regularly with USDA officials to try to waive some of the regulations that govern food services, at least until the food distribution and staffing impacts of the pandemic have been reduced or eliminated. Under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs, we will continue to provide all students with free breakfast and lunch this year.

I can assure you that we are all dedicated to providing students with the highest quality food that is expected from Chadwick-Milledgeville, and the cafeteria staff will continue to take great pride in their work. With that being said, please realize that our menus may have to change without notice. Please be patient with our cafeteria staff as they continue their efforts to expand food options as we address these very significant issues.

Thank you for your continued support of Chadwick-Milledgeville Schools.