



STUDENTS & TEACHERS- WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We would like to collect one letter, photograph with a short note, or a drawing/collage – from one student, one teacher, or one class/ club – for each state legislator saying why school meals are important, what they mean for you/your family/your school, and asking for the legislator’s support or thanking them for their support for those legislators who are already supporting [the bill](#) to ensure all public schools in Vermont provide free breakfast and lunch to every student.

Why Universal School Meals?

We know [universal school meals benefit students, schools, farmers, and our Vermont community](#) as a whole - and that implementing universal school meals is possible. Since last March, as schools swiftly responded to the pandemic and acclimated to their new reality, every single school has taken advantage of temporary program flexibilities that allow them to serve universal school meals. This has had a major impact on ensuring that children are not going hungry and are getting the nutritious food they need to learn this school year.

As we look ahead, we have an opportunity to build more equitable systems that truly serve everyone. All students in Vermont’s public schools deserve equitable access to school meals; it shouldn’t matter what zip code they live in. That’s why we are calling for permanent universal school meals in every public school in our state.

Thank you for joining us in declaring that every student, every day, at every public school in Vermont, deserves access to school meals regardless of their family’s ability to pay.

Instructions

Ready to take action? Email rmitchell@hungerfreevt.org & cindy@action-circles.com with the school and town you represent to get signed up.

You will be assigned a state legislator who represents YOU- your school and your community. Get creative in writing a letter, drawing a picture, collage, or creating another message letting them know why they should support Universal School Meals. Please make sure to sign your message with your name, school and town! If your assigned legislator already supports USM, remember to say “thank you!” We’ll let you know if they do.

We will be collecting messages for ALL legislators and plan to deliver them on March 15th. So, please complete your message by **end of February** and return it to

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