

ALDINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT CHILD NUTRITION SERVICES



August 26, 2013

TO: Middle and High School Principals

FROM: Dani Sheffield, Executive Director

Child Nutrition Services

RE: AT RISK EVENING MEALS

All <u>middle</u> and <u>high schools</u> will implement At Risk Evening Meals beginning October 1, 2013. This additional meal service is a district decision strongly supported by the Aldine Board of Education.

Child Nutrition Services will administer and operate the meal service which is part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). It is a completely separate program from the National School Lunch Program. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provided school districts the opportunity to participate beginning last school year. A pilot site occurred at Hambrick Middle School during May, 2013 and was successful.

Each operating site <u>must</u> provide students with regularly scheduled activities in an organized, structured, and supervised environment as well as provide <u>educational</u> or <u>enrichment</u> activities.

NOTE: Competitive sport team events cannot be designated as educational and enrichment activities. But, students involved in a competitive sports team, school organization, band, etc., may participate in the At Risk Evening Meal Service as long as **education** or **enrichment** activities are taking place on campus.

Participation in the At Rick Evening Meal Service program is designated for students who are age 18 or under at the start of the school year. Students who turn 19 during the school year are eligible to participate as well. All middle and high schools in Aldine are **area eligible** due to at least 50% of the students receiving free or reduced-price meals. Meals served will be at no cost to each student. Meal Service must occur after the regular school day has ended and distribution of the meals must take place during the time of enrichment or education activities. Child Nutrition will create a one week menu cycle featuring (cold) box meals that meet all current USDA meal nutrition standards. Meals will be prepared and served by Child Nutrition staff. All meals must be consumed in the cafeteria. More details about meal service will be provided in a later communication.

A program application for 2013-2014 plus a site application for each school will be completed by Child Nutrition. Requests for data and contact information will occur. Each site must be approved by the **Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)**.

The **After School Care (Snack) Program** may operate for the month of <u>September only</u>. Beginning October 1, 2013, only the At Risk Evening Meal Program will operate.

Child Nutrition looks forward to providing this program and contributing to each student's nutritional and academic success.