



JULY



ZPS FOOD SERVICE NEWSLETTER

ZPS Wellness Policy

As required by law, the Board of Education establishes a Wellness Policy for the Zeeland Public School District. The Board recognizes that good nutrition and regular physical activity affect the health and well-being of the District's students. To review the Wellness Policy, click [here](#), or visit the Wellness Policy tab located under the Food Service Department webpage. Anyone wishing to discuss the ZPS Wellness Policy may contact Sarah Stone, ZPS Food Service Director.

Sarah Stone

E: ssstone@zps.org

P: (616) 748-3126

Open Positions

On Call Food Service Sub Position Openings: If you are looking for a part-time job that is during school hours, and you like to work around students, then this job is for YOU! This is a great opportunity to learn more about food service, and has the potential to lead to a permanent position when one opens. If you are interested, click **HERE** to apply.



Allergen Forms

If your child has a food allergy or medical condition requiring a special diet, and you would like to request accommodations, please complete and submit the form linked below. The form must be completely filled out and signed by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse. If you have questions, please contact the ZPS Registered Dietitian, Jordyn Parsons (p: 616-748-4709; e: jparsons@zps.org).

[Special Diet Statement Form to Request Special Meals](#)

From the Director's Desk

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we embrace the heat of summer, our department remains busy and committed to serving our community. In June alone, we proudly provided over 4,500 summer meals across three sites, ensuring our students stay nourished and energized.

Summer is the perfect time to enjoy Michigan's delicious and fresh produce. Thanks to our partnerships with Crisp Country Acres in Holland and Heidi's Farm Stand in Lowell, we were able to serve a local bounty that included:

- 360 lbs of asparagus
- 280 lbs of blueberries
- 225 quarts of strawberries
- 225 cucumbers

This abundance of fresh, local produce is made possible through programs like SFSP (Summer Food Service Program) and the 10-cent-a-meal grant. These programs are vital in helping us provide healthy, tasty meals to our community. We would love to hear how SFSP meals have helped your family this summer! Feel free to email me at sstone@zps.org.

Looking Ahead to the School Year

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we want to share an important update. Michigan's School Meals program, which provides free meals for all students, is scheduled to end on September 30, 2025. We are currently awaiting approval of the state budget to see if this program will be extended for another year. Since the state budget runs from October 1st to September 30th, it can be confusing, but we will keep you informed as more details become available.

How You Can Prepare Now

Child Nutrition and Education Benefits Application. Now is a great time to fill out the form. Your children may qualify for Child Nutrition and Education Benefits including free or reduced priced meals, Zeeland Rec classes, Technology, Testing and college application discounts. Apply online @ <https://zeeland.familyportal.cloud/>.

Family Portal: Make sure you can access the Family Portal to check account balances, make deposits, and complete the Child Nutrition and Education Benefits application efficiently. <https://zeeland.familyportal.cloud/>

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We're looking forward to a fantastic school year ahead!

Sarah Stone
Director of Nutritional Services

SFSP Summer Meal Sites

The ZPS Food Service Department will be operating summer food service programs (SFSP) and summer meal sites at The Bridge in downtown Zeeland, Helder Park, and Roosevelt Elementary School.

The Bridge

Address: 210 E Main Ave Zeeland MI 49464

Dates: Monday - Thursday; June 9th - August 7th

Time: 12:00 - 1:00 PM

The Bridge Youth Center will be providing **FREE** lunch to children 18 and under (or up to age 26 if enrolled in a special education program), Monday thru Thursday starting Monday, June 9th. Lunch must be eaten on site.

Helder Park

STARTING JULY 21, PICK UP LOCATION WILL BE MOVED TO JIM KAAT BASEBALL PARK

Dates: Mondays; June 9th - August 4th

Time: 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

FREE meal boxes containing 7 breakfasts and 7 lunches will be provided to children 18 and under (or up to age 26 if enrolled in a special education program) every Monday. Meals do not have to be eaten on site. Please complete the form linked **HERE** to pre-register for a 7-day meal box pickup for your student(s).

Pick Up Dates

July	August
Monday, July 29 th	Monday, August 4 th

Roosevelt Elementary

Address: 175 W Roosevelt Ave Zeeland, MI 49464

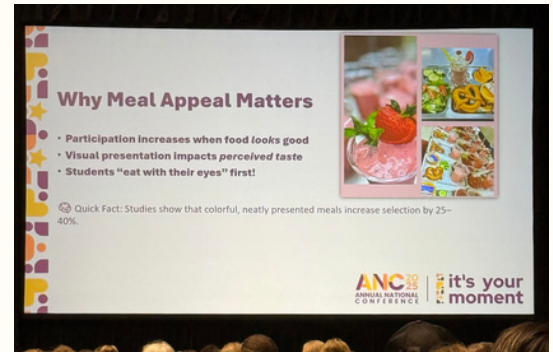
Dates: Tuesdays; June 9th - August 8th

Time: 12:30 - 1:30 PM

Roosevelt Elementary will be providing **FREE** lunch to children 18 and under (or up to age 26 if enrolled in a special education program), every Tuesday, starting on June 10th. Lunch must be eaten on site.

SNA Highlight

Recently, our director, Sarah Stone, and dietitian, Jordyn Parsons, had the opportunity to attend the Annual School Nutrition Association conference in San Antonio, Texas. The theme of the conference was “It’s Your Moment.” While there, both Sarah and Jordyn were able to learn about best managerial practices, current school nutrition trends, and innovative ways to prepare and serve food for your students. They look forward to serving you and your students this year, and are excited to take what they learned and apply it at ZPS.



Student Corner

Here is what East & West High School students are saying about school meals:

- What is your favorite school lunch? “Chicken sandwich, sub bar at West, stir fry bar.”
- What is your favorite school breakfast? “Funfetti pancakes!”
- What is your favorite fruit to eat? “Local MI Apples!”
- How have school meals helped you as a student? “With school meals, I don’t go to class hungry or tired - I am able to focus on my school work.”

Michigan Harvest of the Month

PEACHES



FUN FACTS

- Peaches are nearly 90% water.
- There are over 700 varieties of peaches.
- A peach becomes round as it ripens.
- The popular Red Haven peach is from South Haven, Michigan.
- In Chinese culture, peaches symbolize a long, healthy life and peach blossoms symbolize happiness.
- There are three categories of peaches: freestone, semifree, and clingstone.
- Peaches are harvested by hand because they bruise easily.

Easy Peach Salsa

Ingredients

- 2 medium chopped peaches or nectarines, chopped, or one 15-ounce can of peaches in 100% fruit juice, drained, rinsed, and chopped
- ½ cup red onion, finely diced
- 1 small tomato, chopped
- 1 medium jalapeno, seeds and ribs removed, chopped
- 2 tablespoons cilantro, chopped
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- Juice of one lime or lemon

Instructions

- Prepare fruits & vegetables. Tip: wear gloves when preparing jalapeno.
- Place all ingredients in a medium bowl and mix gently.
- For best taste, chill 30-60 minutes before serving.

Change it Up:

- Swap a peach or nectarine for a plum.
- Add chopped apples and serve on grilled pork, chicken, or fish.