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**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release – March 19, 2020

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**Livingston Schools Serve More Than 15,000 Meals on First Day,**

**Prepare for Next Week’s Food Deliveries**

 **LIVINGSTON, La.** – Livingston Parish Public Schools Superintendent Joe Murphy announced today that school officials distributed more than 15,000 meals yesterday – 7,464 breakfast meals and 7,601 lunch meals -- to parish children who are without access to daily school food service because of the COVID-19 closures.

 “We are so appreciative of the job of our school food service employees, and other employees and volunteers, who did a tremendous job yesterday in delivering more than 15,000 meals to kids across our parish. Most of the efforts were efficiently manned at drive-thru stations at our 14 school distribution sites, but we also had teams from other schools who picked up food packages and delivered them to some families in our communities,” Murphy said.

 “For many employees, this was an opportunity to see some of our students, to connect with them and reassure them during this difficult time that we care about their well-being and are we here, working on their behalf,” Murphy said.

 Supervisor of Child Nutrition Sommer Purvis said the district is planning to distribute free meals again on Monday (March 23) and Wednesday (March 25). All children aged 18 and under are eligible to receive the meals. They do not have to be present at the time of the meal pick-up, nor do they have to be enrolled in Livingston Parish Public Schools to receive the free meals.

 Purvis reported the breakdown of meals served during yesterday’s distribution effort:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **School Site** | **Breakfast** | **Lunch** |
| Albany Middle, 29675 Reeves Street, Albany, LA 70711 | 832 | 832 |
| Denham Springs High, 1000 N. Range Ave., Denham Springs, LA 70726 | 549 | 549 |
| Denham Springs Jr. High, 401 Hatchell Ln., Denham Springs, LA 70726 | 627 | 627 |
| Doyle High, 20480 Circle Drive, Livingston, LA 70754 | 382 | 356 |
| Eastside Elementary, 9735 Lockhart Road, Denham Springs, LA 70726 | 328 | 328 |
| French Settlement Elementary, 15810 LA Hwy., French Settlement, LA | 343 | 343 |
| Holden High, 30120 LA Hwy 441, Holden, LA 70744 | 348 | 348 |
| Juban Parc Elementary, 12555 Brown Rd., Denham Springs, LA 70726 | 419 | 400 |
| Live Oak High, 39079 LA Hwy 16, Watson, LA 70706 | 920 | 920 |
| North Corbin Elementary, 32645 North Corbin Rd., Walker, LA 70785 | 468 | 468 |
| Seventh Ward Elementary, 24495 LA Hwy. 16, Denham Springs, LA  | 739 | 739 |
| South Fork Elementary, 23300 Walker South Rd., Denham Springs, LA | 396 | 396 |
| Springfield High, 27322 LA Hwy. 42, Springfield, LA 70462 | 500 | 500 |
| Walker Freshman High, 13443 Burgess Ave., Walker, LA 70785 | 795 | 795 |
| **Total:**  | **7646** | **7601** |

 She noted that all meals provided met the nutritional requirements of the USDA.

 At the same time, Purvis said the district is working with local community groups and churches that support the “Full Tummy” program to provide additional meals for needy families. She encouraged persons who would like to volunteer or make a donation to the project to contact Mighty Moms at info@mightymomsgo.org or call 225-435-9195.

 “Our community is so very fortunate to have caring individuals who have dedicated themselves to addressing the hunger needs in our parish. We are grateful to have their much-needed assistance in this current situation,” Purvis said.

## 30 ##