Haralson County Pre-K-8th grade to Participate in Community Eligibility Option

Parents or Guardians:

August 2, 2013 – Haralson County Pre-K – 8^{th} Grade is slated to implement the Community Eligibility Option (CEO) for Free Meal Reimbursement in School Year 2014. Through CEO, a school district, a group of schools or a single school may offer meals at no charge to all students. This eliminates the procedure of distributing and processing meal applications.

Cindy Jones, Nutrition Director would like to assure the community that local taxes will not be affected by this implementation.

The Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 includes the implementation of CEO to insure that every student in low-income neighborhoods can participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). To qualify, a district or school must have 40 percent or more of its students eligible for free meals based on direct certification.

By participating in CEO and eliminating the need for meal applications, Haralson County Schools will reduce administrative and printing costs. Families also benefit from the elimination of completing and submitting meal applications.

Georgia is one of 11 states selected to pilot this innovative program. CEO will be available to the entire country in School Year 2015.

Cindy Jones, Nutrition Director Haralson County Schools

Non-discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. "In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination write: USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."