District revises free student meal distribution to provide enhanced safety and convenience

Starting Monday, March 23, any child under 18 can get two free meals – a breakfast and a lunch – each weekday using a single trip. The free meals can be picked up from 9 a.m. until noon at 12 sites scattered through Beaufort County as well as through a network of 20-minute school bus stops.

The revised schedule of bus stops has been posted on the school district's website (beaufortschools.net) and social media platforms. Parents and students will be informed about the changes over the weekend through phone calls and e-mails.

All schools are currently closed through March 31. During the shut-down, any child age 18 or younger can receive free breakfasts and lunches regardless of meal status during the school year.

Drive-through meal pick-ups will now be available in the bus rider drop-offs at each location each weekday from 9 a.m. until noon. Students must be present at the time of pick up, and all food will be "grab-and-go," with no food consumed on site.

Meal pick-up procedures also are being improved to enhance safety. When picking up meals at one of the 12 distribution sites, parents will be asked how many children are in the car. They will then pull their vehicle forward to a space when they can exit their vehicles and pick up the correct number of meals from a table.

The revised procedures are designed to maintain safe physical distances between parents, students, food service workers and bus drivers.