

# Regional School Unit #34 Food Service

## Alton, Bradley, & Old Town

May 12, 2021

We are getting there!

**May 7<sup>th</sup> was School Lunch Hero Day**, so Kim and I took a few minutes to visit and celebrate the School Lunch Heroes that are still standing here in RSU #34. We do plan to do something special at the close of the school year when I think they will be ready to breathe and enjoy the moment. For some, they might be looking at a summer off. For others it will be a couple of weeks off and they will be back, but with an abbreviated schedule, which will still be a nice and very welcome break.

**Staff & Students:** With students coming back and our staff shrinking, we have done some shuffling of staff and some fancy footwork, but we are managing, and everything seems to be going well. Students are eating outdoors again, and they seem to be loving that. Staff is stepping up and falling into yet another routine, but they are doing it with dedication and determination, and they are doing a great job for us.

**Upcoming Legislation:** LD 1679, *An Act to Address Student Hunger through Expanding Access to Free School Meals*, has been printed and will start moving through the state legislature in the coming weeks. While most people agree that all children should have access to school meals at not cost, the issue of how to pay for this continues to be a roadblock. LD 1679 is tentatively scheduled for a public hearing on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, in the morning. *“Summary: This bill requires the State to pay the difference between the federal requirement for a free breakfast or lunch and the full price for a breakfast or lunch at no cost to the students who are ineligible for free or reduced-price school meals. It also directs schools and school administrative units to request parents and guardians to complete household income forms to determine eligibility for various state and federal food assistance programs. This bill also directs school administrative units to the maximum extent possible to maximize participation in federal school meal programs.”*

**Summer Meal Sites:** Tentative plans for summer include the following sites: Alton Elementary School, Leonard Middle School, Old Town Elementary School, Old Town High School, Old Town – Orono YMCA, KidsPeace, Whim Station, Pine Haven Park, Lincoln Green, Perkins Park, Binette Park & Bradley Municipal.

**Participation:** April: 18,107 meals, 17 school days, 23 serving days

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Stephanie*

Stephanie A. Salley, Food Service Director  
156 Oak Street - Old Town, ME 04468  
Phone (207) 827-3908 - Fax (207) 827-3925  
Email: [stephanie.salley@rsu34.org](mailto:stephanie.salley@rsu34.org)