



## **Uxbridge Offers Healthy Meal Service to Children During School Closures** *Nutritious Breakfast and Lunch available free to all Uxbridge Students*

**April 9, 2020** — Beginning Monday, April 13, 2020 in efforts to support families during school closures, Uxbridge Public Schools is providing free, nutritious breakfast and lunch meals to all Uxbridge students and to all children/youth aged 0-21, regardless of residence or school attended, as part of the USDA's emergency COVID-19 response.

"We want people to know that these healthy meals are available to all Uxbridge students. In fact, parents/caregivers can pick up meals on children's behalf to help ensure safe social distancing," said Superintendent Frank Tiano. "We know that home food supplies are running low and it's important to try to keep people out of the supermarkets. This is a federally funded program, and the food is nutritious, so please come take your meals!"

Uxbridge Public Schools offer meals at the **Taft Early Learning Center**, 16 Granite St, Uxbridge, MA 01569. Meals are available for pick-up on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, with breakfast and lunch offered for multiple days. "On Monday and Wednesday, we offer two breakfasts and lunches to cover Tuesday, and Thursday. On Friday, we offer three breakfasts and lunches to carry children through the weekend," said Stephanie Barstow, the district's School Nutrition Director.

- Meals are available **to Uxbridge Public School students and to all children/youth aged 0-21, regardless of residence or school attended.**
- Meals are available **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11am-1pm**
- Children receive **a free breakfast and lunch for every day of the week** (bagged breakfast and bagged lunch). Children (or parents/guardians on behalf of children) can take multiple days' worth of meals at once.
- **On Fridays, families can pick up 6 meals** to cover both a breakfast and a lunch on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
- **Children do not need to be present for parents/guardians to pick up the meals.**
- **Safe social distancing is encouraged via the pick-up process:** Meals are distributed outside cafeteria doors on the sidewalk where families enter the drive-up/pick-up line, pull up to the curb, and inform staff how many students they are picking up for. Food service staff will place meals in the trunk of vehicles to maintain distance.
- Anyone who cannot make it out of their house to pick up a meal is encouraged to email Stephanie at [sbarstow@uxbridge.k12.ma.us](mailto:sbarstow@uxbridge.k12.ma.us).