

Dear BMS families,

The Backpack Buddies program is a partnership between Bemidji Area Schools and the United Way of Bemidji Area.

This program is only for students that could <u>truly</u> benefit from having additional food when school is not in session. The program provides a bag of non-perishable food for your child to eat over the weekend and during school/holiday breaks. Each bag typically includes: 2 breakfast items, 2 main dishes, 2 fruits, 1 snack, 1 vegetable, 2 dairy, and 1 high protein item.

Once enrolled in the Backpack Buddies program, your child can pick up 1 food bag on the last school day of each week.

The backpack buddy is at no cost to your child. Every effort will be made to keep this confidential. In addition, if your circumstances should change after you have enrolled, you may opt out of the program at any time during the school year.

To enroll in or to opt out of this program, please contact one of the following staff members:

Pauline Winge: 333-3215 Ext. 58181 or pauline_winge@isd31.net Alea Stoll: 218-368-1059 or alea_stoll@isd31.net Amanda Stade: 333-3215 Ext. 58171 or amanda_stade@isd31.net Travis Zachman: 333-3215 Ext. 51961 or travis_zachman@isd31.net This program will start early October of 2021