



PLEASE RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Bemidji Area Schools has partnered with the United Way of Bemidji Area, Sanford Health, Lueken's Village Foods and Marketplace Foods to make this a free resource for students that have a need for food over the weekends and holidays.

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.

The Backpack Buddies Program is scheduled to begin in September and will continue throughout the 2023-2024 school year.

Once enrolled in the Backpack Buddies program, your child will receive a food bag at the end of the day, before school dismisses, every Friday and the day before a school/holiday break. Teachers and school staff will help remind students where and when to pick up their bag. The food bag is not intended to be opened until your child is home. The food will be packaged in plastic bags and placed in your child's backpack.

The food pack is at no cost to your child.

If this program will be helpful as you work to provide for your family, please complete and return this sheet to the school's office. 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 by letting your school office know.

Yes, please enroll my child (ren) in the Backpack Buddies program for the 2023-2024 school year. I understand the waiver of confidentiality.

Child's First and Last Name <small>*The child must be a student currently enrolled in Bemidji Schools</small>	Grade	Teacher

If you have questions, please contact Pauline Winge, BMS School Social Worker at 218-766-8162.

Parent/Guardian First and Last Name, Date _____

Bemidji Area Schools is an equal opportunity provider.