February 22, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am delighted to announce that, beginning on Friday, March 1st of the 2018-2019 school year, all students at Stephen Knolls will have the opportunity to eat breakfast at school each morning at no charge. Breakfast will include milk, juice, and fruit, and an entrée such as a whole grain bagel or whole grain breakfast sandwich. Students will eat in their classrooms at the beginning of the school day.

This program, called *Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA),* is funded with money from the federal School Breakfast Program and the Maryland State Department of Education.

Our school is one of 80 Montgomery County schools that will be offering a classroom breakfast program. Research shows that this program helps students do better in class and improves attendance and tardiness. Staff in classroom breakfast schools also report that students complain less often about being hungry and tired. We are fortunate to be among the Maryland schools selected to participate in this program this year.

We will continue to serve lunch in the cafeteria. You may pay for lunch, or apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits. Applications for free and reduced-priced meals were sent home with students at the beginning of the school year. For faster processing apply online at [www.MySchoolApps.com](http://www.MySchoolApps.com)

I invite your child to start the day ready to learn by joining his or her classmates for a nutritious breakfast at school each morning. I look forward to your feedback on this innovative and successful program.

 Sincerely,

 Kim Redgrave

 Principal