



# Hamilton County School District

Superintendent of Schools  
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**School Board Members**  
Cheryl McCall – District 1  
Gary Godwin – District 2  
Saul Speights – District 3  
Johnny Bullard – District 4  
Sammy McCoy – District 5

**Lee Wetherington-Zamora, Superintendent**

**Marjorie Cooks, Coordinator of Safety & Mental Health**

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July 13, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

We are pleased to announce that the Hamilton County School District will continue to assist economically disadvantaged students by implementing the Food Backpack Program again this year. Throughout the previous year, our School Safety & Mental Health Department worked in conjunction with our Food Service Coordinator and our Federal Programs Office to send additional food home with students in Grades 3-6. As a result of this program, student backpacks are filled each month with nutritious food items designed to help feed children in need. According to Feed America, 21.5% of the people in Hamilton County are food insecure; thus, many of our students lack reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable and nutritious food when they are away from our school campus.

There is no doubt that economic hardships and lack of food can have a tremendous impact on the overall mental health and well-being of students and families. These adverse conditions along with the obstacles created by our current pandemic can negatively affect student achievement, self-esteem, and often generate signs and symptoms of potential mental health disorders. That is why we need your help. If you or your organization would like to contribute to this meaningful endeavor, please review the food items on our attached flyer. Food donations can be delivered by the third Monday of each month to the Safety Office located on our Hamilton County School District campus.

If you have any questions regarding our Food Backpack Program, please contact us at any time. You can e-mail me at [marjorie.cooks@hamiltonfl.com](mailto:marjorie.cooks@hamiltonfl.com) for more information or call my office at 386-792-7813. On behalf of the Food Backpack Program Committee, thank you for your support! Together, we are truly making a difference!

Sincerely,

Food Backpack Program Committee  
Hamilton County School District

**“Ensuring a Successful Future for Every Student”**

[www.hamiltonfl.com/safety](http://www.hamiltonfl.com/safety)