# Superintendent’s Memo #058-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: March 8, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: Celebrate National CACFP Week – March 17-23, 2019

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), in partnership with the National CACFP Sponsors Association, encourages local schools to recognize and celebrate March 17-23, 2019, as Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Week.

CACFP Week is a national education campaign designed to raise awareness of how USDA’s Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) combats hunger. The CACFP brings healthy foods to tables across the country for children in child care centers, homes, and afterschool programs, as well as adults in day care. For VDOE, At-risk Afterschool meals play a special role in ending childhood hunger and ensuring students have access to nutritious meals after the end of the school day.

CACFP Week is a great opportunity to increase student participation in afterschool meal programs and inform parents and students about the importance of this resource. Increasing the number of students who have access to a nutritious meal after the school day has ended is an important step in improving the health of Virginia’s students, as well as their academic performance. In Virginia, 6.8 million afterschool meals and snacks were served during the 2017-2018 school year. CACFP Week is also a chance to celebrate the staff committed to this work across the Commonwealth to expand this program in more schools and communities.

To help promote CACFP Week and afterschool meals, please refer to the [*No Kid Hungry promotional toolkit*](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/nutrition/index.shtml) and the [*National CACFP Sponsors Association Toolkit*](https://www.cacfp.org/files/6415/4360/4066/2019_CACFP_Week_Guide_Toolkit_cacfp.org.pdf) available on our web site. If there are questions or additional information is needed, contact Dr. Sandy Curwood, Director of School Nutrition Programs, at (804) 225-2074 or by email at sandra.curwood@doe.virginia.gov or contact the child nutrition program specialist assigned to your school division.

JFL/SCC/bdb