

Alachua County Public Schools

Schools in Alachua County provide thousands of students with breakfast and lunch during the school year through the Free/Reduced School Meal Program. Unfortunately, many families are dependent on this program to feed their kids every day. Many families have a hard time feeding their children over school holidays and breaks as it is not a part of their regular budget. The Winter Break (December 21 - January 7) then becomes a time of added financial stress because of the holidays. In order to make this time a little less stressful, we are working with the schools to provide food for some of their neediest families. Last year, more than 1000 families were helped through this effort. The deadline is December 12 for food items and Dec. 18 for monetary contributions. Please contact us if you have items beyond the deadline as we may be able to include them.

The food items listed below will help families in our area make it through Winter Break and provide them with some food for a holiday meal. If you would like to help a family, please purchase the items listed below. We are also happy to shop and do receive some discounts for multiple item purchases and some wholesale pricing.

Holiday Food Drive

If you would like to include additional items, some suggested items are: another breakfast item, snack pack pudding, additional canned meals (ravioli, etc), individual fruit cups, raisins, fruit snacks. You could also include a gift card to cover fresh milk or produce. These items are not required, but are appreciated.

Monetary Donations:

We also take monetary donations of any amount. A complete basket of food costs approximately \$60. Checks may be made to the Education Foundation of Alachua County.

To donate online: (money managed by The Education Foundation of Alachua County)

<http://bit.ly/ACPSfoodbox>

Questions?

Please contact Kelley Kostamo – Partners in Education – Alachua County Public Schools
kostamkb@gm.sbac.edu – 352-955-7250 x235

Thank you for making a brighter holiday for our students and families!

We would like all food boxes to offer the same minimum food selection so that all families can have a WONDERFUL break.

2 large cans of sweet potatoes
Black beans
Stuffing mix
Instant potatoes
5 cans fruit
4 cans vegetables
Dessert – brownie/cake w/ frosting
Breakfast – cereal, oatmeal, grits
2 large cans of chef Boyardee-like items
Instant milk or boxed milk

Bag of rice
3 boxes of Mac & Cheese
Boxed meals w/ meat (in Hamburger Helper Section)
3 cans of soup
Spaghetti Noodles and a jar of sauce
Peanut Butter and Jelly
\$10 Gift Card
(or a non-refrigerated ham...sometimes available in the meat department or canned meat aisle)

Please check the dates on your donations as our program rules prevent us from giving away expired items. We also accept other non-perishable, non-expired food items in order to fill the boxes.