

Bloomsburg Area School District

Alex J. Dubil Administration Building

728 EAST FIFTH STREET BLOOMSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17815-2305 (570) 784-5000 FAX (570) 387-8832

<http://bloomsburgasd.schoolwires.com>

November 2016

Dear Community Partner:

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the "Panther Pack Program." This program is being organized to benefit children in the Bloomsburg Area School District (BASD) by providing bags of nutritious foods and snacks for use over weekends, free of charge. The program has been made available to eligible kindergarten, first-grade students, and second-grade students in the Bloomsburg Area School District, effective 4 September 2015.

The Panther Pack Program is sponsored by the Bloomsburg Area School District and the Bloomsburg Food Cupboard. The program is coordinated by the school counselor in each building (Kelli Alexander at Beaver-Main Elementary School and W.W. Evans Elementary School and Ann Kostiuk at Memorial Elementary School). The Panther Packs will be assembled with the help of student, community, and parent volunteers. We will provide a bag filled with easy-to-prepare meals and snacks for weekends to eligible students. This program was developed to help ensure students have access to nutritious meals during the weekend when they are not able to take advantage of the school breakfast/lunch program. By helping to meet the basic needs of our students, we hope each child will be better able to focus on learning and schoolwork instead of on an "empty feeling" or worrying about his/her next meal.

It is our goal to implement the Panther Pack Program in all of our schools and at all grade levels. In order to meet this goal, we are looking for community support. The following are ways you can help us in this endeavor:

- Make a monetary donation;
- Donate food; or
- Sponsor a child for \$300 a year (please contact Annie Kostiuk for this option).


If you would like to make a **monetary donation**, please make checks payable to the Bloomsburg Food Cupboard, P.O. Box 829, Bloomsburg, PA 17815 with a designation for the Panther Pack Program.

If you would like to make a **food donation**, please contact The Bloomsburg Food Cupboard at 570-784-0801. Please see the back of this letter for recommended food donations.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact one of the following:

- Annie Kostiuk, Memorial Elementary School Counselor at akostiuk@bloomsd.k12.pa.us or 570-784-7885
- Kelli Alexander, Beaver-Main Elementary/W.W. Evans Elementary School Counselor at kalexander@bloomsd.k12.pa.us or 570-784-3167
- Donald Wheeler, Superintendent, at dwheeler@bloomsd.k12.pa.us or 570-784-5000

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Donald Wheeler
Superintendent

Bloomsburg Area School District

Food Supplies Needed for Panther Pack Program

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD

Peanut butter (no larger than 16 oz. plastic jar)

Peanut butter: single-serving eight-packs

Grape jelly, squeezable plastic container

Single-serving cereal

Small boxes of cereal

Instant oatmeal single-serving packets

Mac and cheese: single-serving

Boxes of mac and cheese

Any single-serving pastas in plastic, microwaveable container

Chef Boyardee Pasta in easy-open cans: no larger than 15 oz.

Cup of noodles: single serving

Ramen noodles

Tuna in a packet: single serving

Microwave single-serving soups

Chunky soup in easy-open can

Pudding Cups (not needing refrigeration): single serving

Fruit cups: single serving

Mandarin oranges: single serving

Applesauce: single serving

Granola bars

Breakfast bars

Pop-Tarts

Gummy fruit snacks

Popcorn: microwaveable

Peanut/nut snacks: single serving

Snack crackers: small six-cracker size

Juice boxes

Hot chocolate mix