

ADAMS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ADAMS COUNTY 2025-004 HEALTHY SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL (HSMA) Resolution No. 2025 – 004

WHEREAS, no child in Colorado should experience hunger; and,

WHEREAS, every public-school student should benefit from access to healthy, locally-sourced, and freshly prepared meals to support their academic success and physical and mental wellbeing; and,

WHEREAS, in 2023, more than eleven percent (11%) of Adams County children aged one (1) to fourteen (14) years and thirteen percent (13%) of Adams County high school students reported eating less than they felt they needed due to lack of money for food, and more than forty-three percent (43%) of Adams County families expressed concern about being able to afford nutritious meals and,

WHEREAS, H.R. 1., the budget reconciliation measure recently passed by the United States Congress, cut funding for food assistance programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), by more than \$185 billion, putting nearly 7,000 Adams County residents at risk of losing their SNAP benefits, and exacerbating food insecurity; and,

WHEREAS, multiple studies find improvements in food security, physical and mental health outcomes, and nutrient quality consumption of school-aged children through participation in universal school meals programs; and,

WHEREAS, investing in nutritious school meals for all public-school students, free from stigma or stress, enables participating students to focus on learning and is a critical investment in the success of Colorado's public schools; and,

WHEREAS, investing in nutritious school meals also supports Colorado farmers and ranchers, strengthening Colorado's local food system; and,

WHEREAS, Colorado voters approved the Healthy School Meals for All (HSMA) program, Proposition FF, with 56.7% of statewide support in 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the program provides universal free breakfast and lunch to all participating public-school students at no cost; and,



WHEREAS, the Healthy School Meals for All program has been embraced by Colorado schools and students, with 190 eligible school food authorities electing to participate in the program and meal participation increasing more than 30% compared to the school year prior to HSMA passage; and,

WHEREAS, with high participation and rising food costs causing the Healthy School Meals for All program's expenditures to exceed available revenue, Colorado's General Assembly referred two measures to the ballot this November - Proposition LL and MM - to protect existing funds and raise additional funds to support all students' ability to access free, quality, nutritious meals at school and to fully implement all components of the Healthy School Meals for All program, including those that have not yet been implemented; and,

WHEREAS, the Healthy School Meals for All program has proven to be an effective strategy for the goal of ending child hunger in Colorado.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Adams County Board of Health stands firmly in support of Propositions LL and MM, which will ensure that Colorado's Healthy School Meals for All has sustainable funding to provide all Adams County public school students, as well as all public school students across Colorado, with access to the nutritious school meals needed to support their academic success and their long-term health and well-being.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Gilliam	Yea
Keiling	 Yea
Lindemann	Absent
Mahnke	Yea
Winkler	Yea

Board of Health Members

ADOPTED, this 17th day of July, 2025.

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Dr. Dierdre A. Gilliam, President Adams County Board of Health

Signature: : Dierdre A. Gilliam (Jul 18, 2025 10:32 MDT)

Email: dgilliamdnp@gmail.com

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