



Rapid City Area Schools  
625 9th Street  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
**January 27, 2025**

Dear Chair Greenfield, Vice Chair Jensen and Members of the House of Education Committee,

We are reaching out to ask for your **support of HB 1089**, a critical bill that will help ensure South Dakota students have access to the nutritious meals they need to learn, grow, and succeed.

This bill specifically addresses a key gap by covering the reduced-price meal costs for families who qualify. Many families struggle to afford even the reduced meal price, and HB 1089 will ensure that their **children can eat without worry**.

Additionally, this legislation includes measures to **encourage families to complete free and reduced-price meal applications**. By increasing participation, we can ensure that more children in need are reached and that schools receive the funding they need to serve every student effectively.

As a member of the House Education Committee, your support is crucial in moving this bill forward. We urge you to:

1. **Vote "YES" on HB 1089** during the committee meeting on Monday, February 3rd.
2. **Advocate for its importance** to your colleagues.
3. **Partner with us** to ensure every South Dakota child has access to the nutrition they need to thrive.

This isn't just about meals—it's about equity, removing barriers to academic success, and empowering our state's children to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your leadership and **commitment to South Dakota's students**. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like additional information—we'd be happy to provide it.

Thank you,

**RCAS Board of Education**

Troy Carr, BOE President  
Jamie Clapham, 1st Vice President  
Christine Stephenson, 2nd Vice President  
Donna Moore, Board Member  
Michael Birkeland, Board Member  
Walter Swan, Board Member  
Katy Urban, Board Member

**RCAS Administration**

Dr. Cory Strasser, Acting Superintendent  
Coy Sasse, Chief Financial & Operations Officer  
Krista Leischner, Student Nutrition Manager

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