

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

Whereas, healthy eating has been linked in studies to improved learning outcomes and helps ensure all students throughout Massachusetts are able to reach their potential; and

Whereas, School Nutrition Professionals in Massachusetts, provide meals that meet federal nutrition standards for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs and accommodate the health and nutrition needs of all students; and

Whereas, School Nutrition Professionals ensure students whose families experience food insecurity have access to free and reduced priced meals; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused approximately 400,000 students who depend on school meals to lose direct access to the school meal program while schools are closed throughout the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, School Nutrition Professionals have selflessly gone above and beyond to ensure these students continue to have access to school meals while schools are closed by quickly adapting and transforming statewide meal distribution to a format that promotes social distancing while maintaining ease of access including grab and go pick up sites, bus stop routes and meals delivered to homes; and

Whereas, by doing so, School Nutrition Professionals have heroically fostered solidarity, selflessness, community development, promotion of health and wellness and a positive vision of the future for Massachusetts,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, to be,

## SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this twenty-seventh day of April, in the year two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-third.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in black ink.

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in black ink.

KARYN E. POLITO  
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of William Francis Galvin in black ink.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts