

WHAT IS ***BULLDOG BAGS, INC.?***

- *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* grew out of a movement by members of the Stow-Munroe Falls community, including school district and city officials, who recognized that some children in the SMFSD did not have adequate meals on the weekend.
- *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* was incorporated and obtained 501(c)(3) status in 2015 to seek to reduce hunger on weekends for students in the SMF City School District by providing the students on the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program, or otherwise qualified, with the nutritional equivalent of the breakfasts and lunches that a child misses on the weekends.
- *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* is a cooperative effort between the community and the schools, funded by community donations.
- *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* began providing Bulldog Bags to children in the SMFCSD in January 2016.
- *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* want to keep kids fed and focused on their daily work.
- *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* want students, parents, and families to know, "We really do care about you!"
- *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* is a volunteer-run business with all donations, except for the cost of doing business (insurance, postage, post office box, paper), being used for providing food for students in the Stow-Munroe Falls City School District.
- *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* is OUR community's organization to provide for OUR children who may be going hungry on the weekend!

FACTS

Food insecurity refers to the USDA's measure of lack of regular access to nutritional food for an active and healthy life.

It is reported that 22.2% of the children in Summit County are food insecure; 22.5% of the children in grades K - 6 in the Stow-Munroe Falls School District were eligible for Free and Reduced lunches in 2015 - 2016.

Weekend food programs for students are designed to supplement the students' educational process. The link between hunger and education is undeniable. Children who go hungry are more likely to exhibit higher levels of anxiety, irritability, hyperactivity, and aggression, which affect all-around school performance.

Research has shown that children participating in weekend food programs achieve better test scores, improved reading skills, positive behavior, improved health, and increased attendance.

EXPANSION OF ***BULLDOG BAGS, INC.***



- 2015 - 2016 K - 4 children received Bulldog Bags;
- 2016 - 2017 Intermediate school (grades 5 & 6) were added to receive Bulldog Bags;
- 2016 - 2017 hygiene bags and nutritious snacks provided to junior high school (grades 7 and 8) to be distributed at school personnel's discretion;
- 2016 - 2017 nutritious lunch items for the high school (grades 9 - 12), distributed at school personnel's discretion; and
- 2017-2018 grades 7 and 8 were added to receive Bulldog Bags.

WHAT'S IN A ***BULLDOG BAG*** AND WHAT DOES IT **COST?**

- A Bulldog Bag has 10 - 12 nutritious items to take the place of the breakfasts and lunches that the child would receive at school as part of the Free and Reduced Meal Program. a minimum of 2 breakfast items, 2 entrée items, and 2 healthy snacks.
- An example of the contents of a Bulldog Bag (nutritious, single serving size, easily opened and prepared):

Oatmeal packet	Chewy granola bar
Canned pasta	Mac and Cheese
Raisins	Canned fruit
- In addition to food, personal care items are included with items such as toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, lip balm, etc.
- \$30.00 will fund Bulldog Bags for a child for the 2017 - 2018 school year.
- Food is purchased; from various low cost sources; it is packed by volunteers and delivered to the schools; it is distributed by school personnel to the students discreetly, so that the participants can, hopefully, remain anonymous.

*We want students to
show up Monday mornings
hungry for **LEARNING**,
not hungry for food.*