

COMMUNITY

Feeding Our Kids All June Long

SUN MEALS PROGRAM ENSURES NO CHILD GOES HUNGRY WHILE SCHOOL IS OUT

When the school bell rings for the last time each spring, the meals don't stop — not in Rowan County. Thanks to the SUN Meals (Summer Nutrition) Program, thousands of local children continue receiving free, nutritious breakfasts and lunches all June long, no matter their family's circumstances.

breakfasts and 7 lunches every week, adding up to more than 15,000 meals distributed every single week. A staggering total that represents not just food on plates, but worry lifted from families, energy restored to children, and a community standing firmly behind its youngest members.



County's students and families has set a powerful example of what it means to truly serve a community.

come. While registration is not required, families are encouraged to pre-register their child in advance. Doing so helps the nutrition team plan the right number of meals each day and ensures every child who comes through the door is taken care of. Meals are served at designated Rowan County Schools sites throughout June.

The program is simple in its promise and powerful in its impact: any child 18 years of age or under can walk in, sit down, and enjoy a healthy meal in a safe and welcoming space. There is no registration process, no income requirement, and no paperwork. Just show up.

The People Behind the Program

None of this happens without the extraordinary dedication of the Rowan County Schools Nutrition Department. Working tirelessly behind the scenes and on the front lines all summer, these professionals plan menus, prepare meals, and show up every single day to make sure children are fed. Their commitment goes well beyond a job description and it is a calling.

"As June continues, the SUN Meals Program stands as a quiet but profound reminder that in Rowan County, we take care of our own." - Jessica Kiser

How to Participate The SUN Meals Program is open to all children 18 and under. There are no income restrictions, and no child will ever be turned away walk-ins are always wel-

Supt. Rowe announces his retirement on June 30, 2027, during June meeting

By Michael A. Clary KyNewsGroup michael@kynewsgroup.com

Members of the Rowan County Board of Education, including Superintendent Michael Rowe, met for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting, on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 6:00pm, which was broadcast live on the Rowan Schools YouTube page. The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

date; and approved the Superintendent's report.

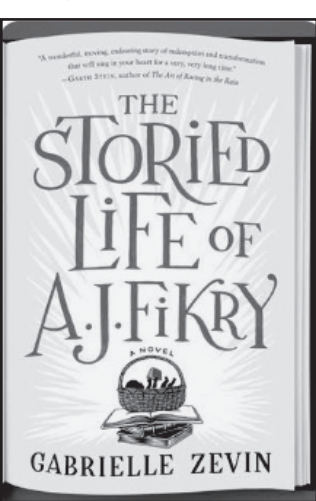
The board heard a presentation from a representative from Trane Heating & Air Conditioning regarding the currently ongoing upgrades to the HVAC system at McBrayer Elementary School, with a completion date of July 31, 2026.

Superintendent Michael Rowe announced to the board that he will be retiring on June 30, 2027, and presented his notification letter with intent to retire, which the board approved. Supt. Rowe said that his retirement in June 2027 would give the board ample time to find a replacement

The meeting then went into closed session and adjourned directly thereafter.

The board approved the minutes from the previous month's regular and special-called meeting; approved the payment of claims; approved the consent agenda, which contained numerous items; approved the Treasurer's report; discussed the 1st reading of the KSBA 26-27 Approved Policies up-

Senior Book Club Meets at Rowan Library



Storied Life of AJ Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin. The group will meet at 3 pm in the Library Conference Room on Thursday, July 9. We welcome everyone to join in and to get started you can pick up a large print book or a book on CD at the Library front desk. The novel is also available through the Libby app as a free ebook or audiobook download with your library card number. The August book will be available to pick up at the meeting as well.

not at all what he expected it to be. His wife has died, his bookstore is experiencing the worst sales in its history, and now his prized possession, a rare collection of Poe poems, has been stolen. Slowly but surely, he is isolating himself from all the people of Alice Island. Even the books in his store have stopped holding pleasure for him.

And then a mysterious package appears at the bookstore. It's that unexpected arrival that gives A. J. Fikry the opportunity to make his life over, the ability to see everything anew. It doesn't take long for the locals to notice the

change overcoming A.J.; or for that determined sales rep, Amelia, to see her curmudgeonly client in a new light; or for the wisdom of all those books to become again the lifeblood of A.J.'s world; or for everything to twist again into a version of his life that he didn't see coming. As surprising as it is moving, The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry is an unforgettable tale of transformation and second chances, an irresistible affirmation of why we read, and why we love.

This book is a layered tale with great depth and emotion. Goodreads.com has the following description: A. J. Fikry's life is

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Rowan County Fiscal Court will accept proposals from qualified mechanical contractors to furnish all labor, materials, equipment, permits, supervision, rigging, startup, commissioning, and related services necessary to remove the existing York chiller and provide a complete turnkey installation of a new air-cooled chiller at the Rowan County Detention Center. The replacement chiller shall be equivalent in capacity and performance to a YORK YLAA Air-Cooled Scroll Chiller, Model YLAA0120SE46XFBSDTXH, operating on 460V, 3-Phase electrical service. The YORK YLAA series is an air-cooled scroll chiller product line designed for commercial chilled water applications. Proposals will be accepted at the Rowan County Courthouse, Office of Rowan County Judge Executive until 10:00 AM on Wednesday, July 1, 2026. Additional information available in person or via email at dylan.lambert@rky.us. Questions may be directed to the Rowan County Judge-Executive's Office at (606) 784-5151. All bids must be sealed and clearly marked, "Proposal - Chiller Replacement". Sealed bids will be opened and read publicly at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, July 1, 2026. All bidders must be licensed to do business in Rowan County. The Rowan County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids if in the best interest of the citizens of Rowan County.

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Child Find for Children with Disabilities in Need of Special Education or 504 Services

Educational Records The Rowan County School District keeps educational records in a secure location in each school and Board office. The Rowan County School District obtains written consent from a parent or eligible student (age 18 or who is attending a post-secondary institution), before disclosing personally identifiable information to an entity or individual not authorized to receive it under FERPA. For students who have been determined eligible for Special Education, educational records will be destroyed at the request of the parents when they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. The Rowan County School District may destroy the educational records of a child without parent request five years after they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. Parents are advised that data contained in the records may later be needed for Social Security benefits or other purposes. The Rowan County School District may retain, for an indefinite period of time, a record of the student's name, address, telephone number, grades, attendance records, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed. Eligibility Children eligible for Special Education include those children with disabilities who have autism, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, emotional-behavior disability, hearing impairment, mental disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment and who because of such an impairment need Special Education services. Children eligible for 504 services include those children in a public elementary and secondary education program who have a current physical or mental impairment that currently substantially limits some major life activity which causes the student's ability to access the school environment or school activities to be substantially limited. Children eligible for the State-Funded Preschool program include three- and four-year-old children identified with disabilities. Preschool children eligible for special education must have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) instead of a 504 plan to receive State-Funded Preschool program services. The Rowan County School District has an ongoing "Child Find" system, which is designed to locate, identify and evaluate any child residing in a home, facility, or residence within its geographical boundaries, age three (3) to twenty-one (21) years, who may have a disability and be in need of Special Education or 504 services. This includes children who are not in school; those who are in public, private, or home school; those who are highly mobile such as children who are migrant or homeless; and those who are advancing from grade to grade, who may need but are not receiving Special Education or 504 services. The district's "Child Find" system includes children with disabilities attending private or home schools within the school district boundaries who may need special education services. The Rowan County School District will make sure any child enrolled in its district who qualifies for Special Education or 504 services, regardless of how severe the disability, is provided appropriate Special Education or 504 services at no cost to the parents of the child. Parents, relatives, public and private agency employees, and concerned citizens are urged to help the Rowan County School District find any child who may have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. The District needs to know the name and age, or date of birth of the child; the name, address, and phone number(s) of the parents or guardian; the possible disability; and other information to determine if Special Education or 504 services are needed. Letters and phone calls are some of the ways the Rowan County School District collects the information needed. The information the school District collects will be used to contact the parents of the child and find out if the child needs to be evaluated or referred for Special Education or 504 services. If you know of a child who lives within the boundaries of the Rowan County School District, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education or 504 services, please call 606-784-8928 or send the information to:

Erin Moseley Director of Special Education Rowan County Schools 551 Viking Drive Morehead, KY 40351 Ph. 606-784-8928

Erin Moseley Section 504 Coordinator Rowan County Schools 551 Viking Drive Morehead, KY 40351 Ph. 606-784-8928

If you know of a child who attends a private or home school within the boundaries of the Rowan County School District, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education services, please call 606-784-8928 or send the information to:

Erin Moseley Director of Special Education Rowan County Schools 551 Viking Drive Morehead, KY 40351 Ph. 606-784-8928

"Child Find" activities will continue throughout the school year. As part of these efforts the Rowan County School District will use screening information, student records, and basic assessment information it collects on all children in the District to help locate those children who have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. Any information the District collects through "Child Find" is maintained confidentially.

Written Policies and Procedures have been developed which describe the District's requirements regarding the confidentiality of personally identifiable information and "Child Find" activities. There are copies in the Principals office of each school, and in the Board of Education office. Copies of these Policies and Procedures may be obtained by contacting:

Director of Pupil Personnel Rowan County Schools 551 Viking Drive Morehead, KY 40351 Ph. 606-784-8928

The District office is open Monday through Friday, from 7:30a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Rowan County School District provides a public notice in the native language or other mode of communication of the various populations in the geographical boundaries of the District to the extent feasible. If you know of someone who may need this notice translated to another language, given orally, or delivered in some other manner or mode of communication, please contact the Director of Pupil Personnel, the Director of Special Education or the Section 504 Coordinator at the address or phone number listed above for the Rowan County Schools.

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RETIREMENT

ARE YOU RETIRING OR HAVE YOU RETIRED?

WANT TO ROLL OVER YOUR IRA OR 401K AND PAY NO TAXES OR DO YOU HAVE FUNDS THAT ARE NOT WORKING FOR YOU?

DO YOU NEED AN INCOME WITHOUT TOUCHING THE PRINCIPLE?

BE THE BOSS OF YOUR RETIREMENT, PUT YOUR MONEY TO WORK FOR YOU WITH UP TO 8% INTEREST!

FOR A PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT: CALL JIM AT 606-683-2104 CELL: 859-948-4376 EMAIL: gatesjimmie@yahoo.com

WHO YOU GONNA CALL??? INTEREST BUSTER!!!

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