



PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, INC.

Resolution in Support of Universal Free School Lunch

Whereas, over 11 million U.S. children struggle with hunger on a daily basis and schools still foster tragic barriers to healthy food for all students;

Whereas, nearly 30 million children eat a school meal every day and too many schools and districts have decades-old equipment or lack the basic kitchen infrastructure needed to efficiently process and prepare those meals;

Whereas, structural racism and classism impede access to healthy food for underserved communities and communities of color, making it harder for kids to build healthy relationships with food;

Whereas a typical U.S. student receives fewer than 8 hours of nutrition education in school per year and rarely is that education integrated or hands-on in the ways we know nurture healthy eating habits;

Whereas, School food can instill in children a love for healthy food; nurture lifelong healthy habits and reductions in chronic health issues; use food as an educational tool to teach kids about science, math, and history; and connect kids to the cultures of their community;

Whereas, Data shows that universal meals lead to higher test scores and increased meal participation and would eradicate lunch-shaming as well as the stigma associated with school meals;

Whereas, the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. fiercely accepts the responsibility to make every classroom a sanctuary for youth development related to emotional intelligence, academic excellence, moral fortitude, and dietary necessities;

*In honor of our beloved 21st
President Dr. Timothy
Stewart*

**REV. DAVID R. PEOPLES
PRESIDENT**

**DR. KEITH W. BYRD, SR.
1ST VICE PRESIDENT**

**DR. A. WAYNE JOHNSON
GENERAL SECRETARY**





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Be it resolved that an equitable and resilient school food system can help dismantle the institutional racism and classism that creates these inequalities;

Be it further resolved that the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. will advocate for a future where every student can receive a free meal at school;

Be it resolved that Progressive National Baptist Convention believes with organizations like FoodCorps that free and more innovative school menus will enable students, no matter their racial and economic background, to achieve higher academic outcomes and experience fewer health issues;

Be it further resolved that the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. demands that state legislatures pass legislation that would integrate food/nutrition education into state education plans and curricula and create and fund dedicated staff positions related to food/nutrition education;

Be it further resolved that the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. demands Congress pass legislation that would guarantee every child gets a no-cost meal at school.

