Dear Community,

East Knox Local Schools is on a mission to Feed Our Own. Over the past few years, we have noticed a great need in our district and that need continues to grow. Our district is currently at a 47% poverty rate and those numbers continue to rise. Many of our families either qualify for very little SNAP benefits or are barely over the income guidelines.

We as a district are looking to help by providing our families with healthy, nutritious meals over the holidays and beyond. Students will be home more over the holiday breaks and this can be difficult for those families who are already struggling to get by. It is our hope to provide a little extra food this holiday season to not only ensure our kids and families are fed, but to also lift their spirits. We have partnered with the Center of Hope in Bladensburg, Ohio to help provide fresh fruits, veggies, and basic meal needs, but we as a school have to provide the meats needed for these meals. We are asking for assistance to provide our families with turkeys, hams, whole chickens, or anything local vendors are willing to donate. It is our hope that we can partner with you to make this happen for our families. We are planning to continue to help our families no less than once a month. Our goal is bi-weekly, running throughout the year.

If you would like to help with the food drive, donations can be brought into the Jr./Sr. High School Office during office hours. As a favor to our program "Feed Our Own", East Knox Athletic Boosters (Darcy Knight) has agreed to be our 5013C, not for profit. Please, make **checks payable to**: **East Knox Athletic Boosters**. Checks can be delivered to the High School Office during school hours or **mailed to**: EK (Feed Our Own), 23201 Coshocton Road, Howard OH 43028.

We appreciate your time and willingness to help, however that may be.

Well Wishes from East Knox Staff.

Gratefully,

James P. Peterson, Superintendent 740-599-7000 ext. 1001 jpeterson@ekschools.org

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