

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4**  
**CHESTER • DEEP RIVER • ESSEX**

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**BEEF & BEEF PRODUCT MORATORIUM**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is involved in an ongoing investigation of Hallmark/Westland Packing Company. Beef and beef products from the Hallmark/Westland Packing Company were determined unfit for human consumption. A recall of beef products from this company is underway. Additionally, the USDA and State of Connecticut notified the school district that we may have received some of the recalled beef. The Region 4 Food Services Supervisor acted to protect the health and safety of students and staff and called for an immediate moratorium on **all** beef products in the Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 schools as of February 11, 2008.

The following action has been taken in our schools:

1. Meals will not be served with **any** beef products in the Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 schools until further notice.
2. All food stocks are being reviewed. We are also checking with our vendors. Any products from Hallmark/Westland Packing Company shall be immediately removed from food stocks and labelled for USDA disposal.
3. Any beef products from Hallmark/Westland Packing Company will not be accepted in our schools until further notice.
4. The central office will communicate with Connecticut River Area Health District, State of Connecticut, and provide any new information to the individual schools as needed.

Our schools endeavour to provide an environment that is healthy and safe for children and adults. Parents and caregivers are reminded to report any foodborne illness to their physician.

Thank you.

Kim M. Caron  
Superintendent of Schools  
Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4