**[SCHOOL DISTRICT/SCHOOL] to Offer Free Summer Meals to All Kids**

**[CITY, State, Month [DATE]], 2021 –** When school lets out for the summer, kids 18 years old and younger can continue to receive free nutritious meals from [School/District name]. There is no application necessary to receive meals and families do not have to show proof of income. The meals are funded by the federal government to ensure kids and teens receive nutritious meals during June, July and August.

“These free meals can help families save time and stretch their household food budget while providing children with sound nutrition and a connection to their schools during the summer,” said [FSD NAME, TITLE, [SCHOOL/DISTRICT]. “Summer meals also help our district financially as we receive federal reimbursement based on the number of meals we provide.”

Meals provided by school districts and nonprofit organizations are an important safety net for hungry kids and families. According to hunger advocacy organization [Feeding America](https://www.feedingamerica.org/take-action/coronavirus), demand at U.S. food shelves increased more than 55 percent following the outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020. In 2021, Feeding America estimates that “42 million people, including 13 million children, may be at risk of hunger.”

The [SCHOOL/DISTRICT] will provide [5 OR 7]-day meal packs, with [breakfast and lunch OR breakfast, lunch and snack] for weekly pick up. Meals are distributed one day a week for several hours via a no-contact drive-thru (see below). Parents pull up, state how many children under 18 are in their household and the staff will give them the appropriate amount of food. Children do not need to be present when meals are picked up nor do they need to be enrolled in the district.

**FREE MEALS ARE AVAILABLE:**

[INSERT PICK UP DAY, TIMES, LOCATIONS]

The varied meals all meet federal nutritional guidelines to ensure kids get the nutrition they need for growth and development. The meals include foods such as a deli sandwich or wrap, fruit and/or vegetables, yogurt, crackers or chips and milk. At times, the [SCHOOL/DISTRICT] may also provide hot meals like walking tacos, hamburgers and grilled cheese sandwiches with soup.

Kids and teens ages 18 and younger can just show up during the hours of operation. In addition to [SCHOOL/DISTRICT], other summer meal sites can be identified by texting “Summer Meals” to 97779 or calling 1-866-348-6479.

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**Contact:** [INSERT FOODSERVICE DIRECTOR’S NAME, PHONE AND EMAIL ADDRESS]