

## **Plano Community Unit School District No. 88**

Mr. Tony Baker • Superintendent
Dr. Tracy Thurwanger • Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Abby Alvarez • Director of EL Services and Assessments

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT SCHOOL MEALS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR:

The federal program that has allowed school districts across the country to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students regardless of income will expire on June 30, 2022. Since 2020, this program has eliminated the need to collect payments for school meals for any student.

At this time, the federal government has NOT extended the waivers for next school year to allow free meals for all students. As a result, schools across the nation will be reverting back to free and reduced-price meals based on income eligibility guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

During the 2022-23 school year, families who do not qualify for free or reduced lunch will have to pay for school meals. Students whose families are eligible for free or reduced-price breakfast or lunch will be able to access meals next school year at no cost or a discounted rate.

Since this adjustment may create a financial burden on some of our families, we are writing to give you advance notice of this change. Between now and the start of next school year, our Board of Education and district administration will continue to explore ways we can help families with this adjustment. At no point would we ever want any child to go hungry at school.

At this time, we do not need any information from families. As we have done in the past, we will send the online link to those who are not directly certified by the State of Illinois, in order to determine who qualifies for free or reduced meals. Please closely watch your Email after July 1st for more information.

Thank you for all of your support this school year. Best wishes for a great summer! If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Benoit at kbenoit@plano88.org.