

Please consider School Lunch and Breakfast

I want to encourage each student in the USD311 district to eat a school breakfast and lunch each day this school year! Here are some reasons why families should consider this as an excellent option to provide meals for their students.

We are coming off of two years of school meals at no cost to any student. This year, Congress did not extend the federal school meal waiver that allowed those no-cost meals to all students. What that means is we are back to “normal” when it comes to paying for school meals. There are many families struggling with household budgets right now and stretching that dollar is important. But please know, there are ways to help pay for meals for your students! The easiest way to receive reduced cost or free school meals for your household is to fill out the Application based on household income. The application is available online this year which makes it easier than ever to apply. Find it at www.usd311.com (Menu, Enrollment (at bottom of page), Free/Reduced Lunch Application (at bottom of page under Miscellaneous Information)). The information you provide is confidential. A paper application is available, but I highly encourage the use of the easy online version. Amy in the district office can assist you if you would need help with the online application.

We are held to high standards when preparing breakfast and lunch each day for students. Meals are prepared in environments with excellent food safety standards and meet the best nutritional standards. Our breakfasts provide student-friendly foods that are quick and easy to grab each morning. We offer a self-serve fruit and vegetable bar every day at lunch with a fresh fruit, canned fruit, and a variety of fresh vegetables. Lunch also meets our requirements for grains, proteins, and milk.

Local foods are also served daily to our students. Our milk comes from Hiland Dairy which provides milk from local dairies. We are also blessed to be provided with student-raised food including pork and vegetables.

Convenience can be a big factor for many families. Our school breakfast and lunch meals are the most convenient way to provide nutritious meals to every student. Even students requiring an altered diet can be accommodated with a doctor signed form.

I provide this information in hopes that each family will consider our school breakfast and lunch the best, cost-effective, healthiest, convenient option to feed their students each day this school year.

Kristen Kaufman
School Foodservice Director