

## Friday Update, October 13, 2023

Good evening, Sulphur Springs Families and staff, this is Dr. Catherine Kawaguchi, your Superintendent with a Friday update, October 13, 2023.

### **Additional Funding for Our Students**

**(Students Who Attend: Golden Oak, Fair Oaks Ranch, Mitchell, Pinetree, Sulphur Springs Community Schools)**



While all students currently eat for free breakfast and lunch in the state of California, additional funding for our schools is tied to the **free and reduced meal applications**. This additional funding supports academic and intervention programs, social/emotional support programs, and professional development for teachers.

***We would greatly appreciate it, if you would take a moment to complete the lunch application at this [link](#) if you have not already completed it. Only one application is needed per family. We also have lunch applications in the office for your convenience.***

Please see the information below about what supports are provided to our Schools with this funding.


# MORE THAN MEALS


Though meals are free for all students for the 2023-2024 school year, the lack of free and reduced meal applications submitted by eligible Sulphur Springs Union School District families to date puts our schools at high risk of losing 20% of vital Supplemental Grant funding. Many are not aware that the free and reduced program provides so much more than just meals for students. The information below highlights areas funding for the free and reduced program enhances. Program reductions can easily be avoided if families, regardless of financial status, submit an application. Applications can be accessed at: <https://www.sssd.k12.ca.us/MoreThanMeals>



#### TRANSPORTATION


The More than Meals program supplies families with discounted bus passes.






#### MENTAL & HEALTH SERVICES

The More than Meals program Supplemental Grant helps to fund Social Workers, Nurses and LVNs at our school sites. Students' social, emotional and mental health has never been as important as it is today. We cannot risk reductions to these programs.




#### CLASS SIZE & CURRICULUM

A 20% reduction in supplemental funding will directly impact class size and student to teacher ratios. The Supplemental Grant aids in funding summer school programs, as well as touching essential areas like curriculum and the ability to hire Support Staff.




#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The More than Meals Supplemental Grant provides funding that allows the District to run a robust elementary physical education program.



#### TECHNOLOGY

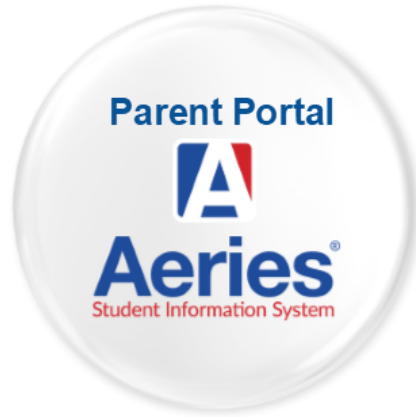
The More than Meals program provides students access to reliable technology such as Chromebooks and iPads.



#### STAFF & PARENT EDUCATION

The More than Meals program helps fund professional development opportunities to staff, and allows the District to offer parent education and family literacy programs.

Please note that students who attend **Canyon Springs, Leona Cox, Valley View, and Mint Canyon Community Schools** do not complete the lunch application process. These families are asked to complete their information in the Aeries Parent Portal.



## **Celebrating Our Families Holiday Food Drive**



I want to let you know that we are holding our annual **Holiday Food Drive** for our families in need. I am very excited that we have this opportunity to give back to our families.

If you would like to support our District's **Holiday Food Drive** for families in need, we are asking for certain foods to be donated, please see below.



**Holiday Food Drive**  
**Día Festivo Colecta de Alimentos**

**Y/Cant.      Menu Item/Menú**

150z cans of green beans/ latas de ejotes  
 150z cans of corn/latas de elote  
 140z boxed potatoes/cajas de puré de papas  
 Box of cornbread mix /Caja de mezcla de pan de  
 de elote  
 160z boxes of spaghetti /cajas de espaguetis  
 Canned spaghetti sauce/salsa para  
 espagueti enlatada (No Glass/sin vidrio)  
 1lb Bag of rice/bolsa de arroz  
 Boxes of macaroni and cheese/  
 Cajas de macarron con queso  
 Boxes of cereal/cajas de cereal  
 Box instant oatmeal/caja de avena  
 instantánea  
 60z boxes of stuffing/cajas de relleno para pavo  
 Box cake/brownie/cookie mix/mezcla para pasteles,  
 brownies, y galletas  
 Cans of Soup/latas de sopa

If you are able to contribute, we are asking for families to drop off the food items at your child's school. When you arrive at the school, you will see a yellow donation cart placed at the front of the school.

The Drive runs from **October 23rd to November 8th** between the hours of **8:30 AM and 3:30 PM**.

We greatly appreciate the food donations. We are also accepting gift cards in any amount from **Denny's Restaurant** to support families who may not be able to cook the meal for the family. If you are able to donate a gift card from Denny's, please give the gift card to the Office Manager at your child's school and/or the District Office, and the gift cards will be given to those families in need.



As a reminder to our families, please know that our District does not allow students to wear Halloween costumes to school. Your child's Principal will be sending out information about what their school will be doing to support school spirit. It is very important that all children are able to participate in all school activities and are not excluded. Thank you again for your support.

**Wishing you and your family a wonderful weekend. Thank you.**

