

Collinsville Community Unit School District 10

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August 8, 2022

Dear Kahok families,

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

Because the federal government has <u>not</u> extended the waivers for the 2022-2023 school year to allow free meals for all students, 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 2022-2023 school year, families who do not qualify for free or reduced lunch or attend a school which qualifies under the Community Eligibility Program will be required 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. In addition, those students attending Caseyville Elementary School, Kreitner Elementary School Twin Echo Elementary School or Webster Elementary School will continue to qualify for free meals under the federal Community Eligibility Provision.

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, District Administration and Director of Food Services 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 encourage families to complete the application for free and reduced meals for the upcoming school year during the online registration process.

Thank you for all of your support during this school year and best wishes for a successful 2022-2023 school year.

If you have any questions regarding school meals, please contact your child(ren)'s school principal.