

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

School District Continues to Feed Children

The Apache Junction Unified School District will provide meals for children as part of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program.

APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA (July 15, 2020) – The National School Lunch and Breakfast Program is a nationally funded program that helps ensure children are well-nourished and better focused on their classroom studies. However, this is not a typical school year. The global Covid-19 pandemic has forced school districts to start their new school year online with students learning virtually from home. The Apache Junction Unified School District is the first school district to open with online instruction on July 21. Since AJUSD students won't be able to eat breakfast or lunch in their school, then the district will take the meals to them.

"These are trying times for everybody," said Dr. Krista Anderson, school superintendent for Apache Junction Unified School District. "It's important to keep some sense of normalcy for our students, and for many, these meals may be the only food they eat for the day."

Under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program, students who qualify for free or reduced meals and are enrolled in school will receive daily home meals delivered to their homes. Parents may add money to their child's lunch accounts and meals will be delivered to their homes, as well. Lunch Program Applications and prepayments may be completed online through <https://family.titank12.com>.

"Our school bus drivers won't be picking up and dropping off the children like a normal school year, so instead, they will deliver meals to our children," said Dr. Anderson.

Additionally, AJUSD is providing a curbside pickup every Monday, starting July 27 at Apache Junction High School and Four Peaks Elementary School. Parents or guardians will receive five days worth of breakfast and lunch for the week. Pickup times are 7:30 to 8:45 a.m. at both locations. Curbside pickup will be available on Tuesday, July 21.

The Apache Junction community will also benefit from the district's food programs. Fresh vegetables and milk, through the Farm to Family Produce and Milk, are free to the community every Thursday morning from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at Apache Junction High School while supplies last.

For more information about AJUSD and school locations, go to www.ajUSD.org.

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About AJUSD

The Apache Junction Unified School District serves over 3,200 students in a 217-square mile area that includes the City of Apache Junction, Gold Canyon, Peralta Trail, Queen Valley and the unincorporated areas of the Superstition Mountain foothills. There are five schools in the district including a high school, junior high and a special education facility. Learn more about the Apache Junction Unified School District at www.ajUSD.org. This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

AJUSD empowers students by providing them with the knowledge, skills and ingenuity to pursue their dreams and make a positive difference in the world.