



October 19, 2020

Dear Laker families,

As this school year unfolds, we are working to ensure that all our families and staff are operating from the same body of information. With that in mind, this memo contains updates and reminders on two critical topics—lunch/meals and attendance.

The school has received updates regarding the meal programs. These clarifications may prove helpful:

1. The **current free meals** being distributed are offered through an extension of the Seamless Summer Option (SSO). They are for all students/families whose children were up to age 18 at the start of this school year. A student/family does not need to qualify for free or reduced lunch to receive these meals. This program will continue through June 30, 2021 when school is operating in a distance model. This is only in effect while we are not physically in school and students do not receive access to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).
2. **Pandemic EBT or P-EBT** benefit is available to students who:
 - a. Were reported to ODE between July 1 and September 22 as enrolled in a school which has the NSLP for 2021 school year;
 - b. Are eligible for no-cost (free) meals in school year 2020 or 2021; and
 - c. Are missing NSLP or SSO meals on site at school for at least 5 consecutive days in school year 2021 due to COVID.

It should be noted that the standards are different now than when the P-EBT was first made available. Not every student/family who qualified last spring, still qualifies for the P-EBT benefit. P-EBT is slated to run through federal fiscal year 2021.

3. The **free/reduced application** is still used to determine benefits for:
 - a. P-EBT benefits for students who do not qualify for free meals under other programs; and
 - b. Lunch benefits for students when we return to an on-campus education model.

Secondly, since attendance looks so different this year, this is an overview on how to show attendance. It should be noted that each class period requires a separate attendance check in daily. Each of the following counts a student as present for class:

1. Turn in work/assignments;
2. Attend a Zoom meeting or Laker Live; or
3. Email, call or text the teacher.

Thank you for your investment in the success of your student(s). We appreciate that you entrust TLCS with the education of your student.

Sincerely,

Adam Watkins,
Superintendent
Blachly School District #90