

Odessa School District #105

PO Box 248 Odessa, WA 99159

Superintendent
Dan Read
(509)982-2668
FAX (509)-982-0163

K-12 Principal
Jamie Nelson
(509)982-2603 Elementary
(509)982-2111 Secondary

Board of Directors
Ed Deife
Heather Valverde
Christine Crossley
Janie Steward
Carmen Weishaar

www.odessa.wednet.edu

Dear Parent/Guardian:

USDA Extends Free Meals for Kids Through December 31, 2020

Summer meal programs can continue operating as funding allows

(Washington, DC, August 31, 2020) – Today, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will extend several flexibilities through as late as December 31, 2020. The flexibilities allow summer meal program operators to continue serving free meals to all children into the fall months. This unprecedented move will help ensure – no matter what the situation is on-the-ground – children have access to nutritious food as the country recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. USDA has been and continues to be committed to using the Congressionally appropriated funding that has been made available.

“As our nation reopens and people return to work, it remains critical our children continue to receive safe, healthy, and nutritious food. During the COVID-19 pandemic, USDA has provided an unprecedented amount of flexibilities to help schools feed kids through the school meal programs, and today, we are also extending summer meal program flexibilities for as long as we can, legally and financially,” **said Secretary Perdue**. “We appreciate the incredible efforts by our school foodservice professional’s year in and year out, but this year we have an unprecedented situation. This extension of summer program authority will employ summer program sponsors to ensure meals are reaching all children – whether they are learning in the classroom or virtually – so they are fed and ready to learn, even in new and ever-changing learning environments.”

Please call Linnie Largent @ 982-2603 if you have any questions.

***“Excellence in Education is the
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Office --509-982-2668
Cell – 509-988-7043

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