



Walker Summer Updates

1 message

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To: Walker Elementary School Recipients <recipients@district65.parentlink.net>



News, Announcements, and Reminders

Walker Parents,

Many of you are receiving this although your child may not be attending Walker next year (Chute, moved out of district, etc).

My apologies! Our system has not caught up with student movement yet. Please disregard this note.

For families returning to Walker, I wanted to share some updates:

- First day of school is Wednesday, August 23rd.

- We have hired new teachers for the upcoming school year

Robyn Oas will teach fourth grade next year. She is a graduate of the University of Iowa and taught 4th grade at a charter school in Chicago the last two years.

Jacob Rubin will teach fifth grade next year. He is a graduate of D65/ETHS and is excited to return here to teach! He taught 5th grade in Vernon Hills last school year.

Jonathan Ibach is transitioning to teaching Band and Orchestra next year at Walker -- and several other D65 schools. We will fill his position teaching general music.

Phoebe Jerousek was slated to be our Occupational Therapist next year but resigned this summer. The Individualized Education Department is hiring to fill her position.

Parents in District 65 will find out their child's teacher on Monday, July 31st. This is a change from the original date I shared with you.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

James

A note from the Nutrition Services Department.

The Nutrition Services team is excited to soon welcome you and your student(s) to the new school year! We'd like to share some important information with you regarding school meals.

Meal Options

Breakfast and lunch are available at all D65 schools. This means a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables to choose from, as well as hot, cold, and vegetarian meal options. There is also milk available daily as an a la carte option. Menus will be available on our website soon.

Middle school students (6-8 grades) have the ability to purchase a la carte items if they do NOT carry a negative account balance. Change for cash purchases will not be given; instead, the balance will be applied to the student's lunch account for future purchases.

Meal Prices

For the 2023-2024 school year, meals will be priced on a tiered scale based on free and reduced-price meal eligibility. Meals are offered at no cost for those who qualify for free meals.

Meal prices are as follows:

- Breakfast (available at all schools)
 - Full-price: \$2.25; Reduced-price: \$.30)
- Elementary Lunch (K-5)
 - Full-price \$3.50; Reduced-price: \$.40)
- Middle School Lunch (6-8)
 - Full-price: \$3.75; Reduced-price: \$.40)
- Milk (purchased a la carte at all schools)
 - \$.60 (price for all individuals when not part of a complete meal)

Free and Reduced-Price Meal Applications

All families are encouraged to apply for free and reduced-price meal benefits! The process is very simple and can be done online beginning on August 1, 2023. More information and a link to access the application will be sent soon! Completed applications will be processed within 10 days. Approval and denial letters are emailed to the address on file.

There are students who will qualify for free meals without an application. If you receive an email from us confirming your student's meal status for this school year, you DO NOT need to submit a meal application for the upcoming school year. Your student(s) will automatically receive free meals. Please ensure that each of your students are listed in the emailed letter that you receive. If you notice a discrepancy, we ask that you call our office as soon as possible to rectify the situation.

There are many benefits beyond meals such as free or reduced-price student fees, summer camp, internet access, and more. Please hold on to your approval letter for future use in accessing these benefits.

If you or someone you know needs help with an application, please call the Nutrition Services office at 847-859-8130.

Pay for School Meals Online

Did you know school meals can be paid for online? Please load funds onto your student's account via [MySchoolBucks](#). To sign up for a new account, you'll need your child's Student ID and date of birth. Don't forget to set up low balance reminders while you're there! There are helpful tutorials found [here](#). If a student does not have funds on their account, we will still provide them with lunch, but we ask that you regularly manage their account to avoid large negative balances down the road. Negative balances carry over from year to year, so please bring your accounts to current before school starts.

Negative Account Balance Notifications

This school year, we will send negative account notifications on a regular basis. If you need help making a payment or need more account details, please contact our office via email at nutritionservices@district65.net.

Other Important Information

Meal Accounts - Every student in D65 has a meal account, even if you've never used MySchoolBucks.

Lunch Orders - Elementary students place their lunch orders in their morning homeroom classes. Middle schoolers make their meal choices as they come through the lunch line in the cafeteria. If you do NOT wish for your student to purchase meals at school, please communicate that expectation with them. For our younger learners, it may also be beneficial to express your wishes to their teachers.

Family Communication - The Nutrition Services team will never deny a student in line a meal, nor do we have knowledge of your wishes. We just want to keep students fed and ready to learn! Communication will help prevent unknown account balances from accruing. Setting up a MySchoolBucks account will also help with this.

Thank you for the privilege of feeding the students of District 65. Please feel free to reach out with any questions. We can be reached at nutritionservices@district65.net.

Quick Links

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