

August 28, 2020

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## **Re: Back to School on Monday!**

Good afternoon LTUSD friends and families,

We're down to the wire and the District is very excited to welcome you back to another school year! With all of the changes and challenges the year is sure to bring, rest assured that every staff member at LTUSD is wholeheartedly embracing them all, and looking forward to making this year cheerful, engaging, inclusive, and academically rewarding for every single student. Welcome back!

### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

Please read thoroughly to learn all the back to school information you will need for a smooth start to the school year! Be sure to read all updates from your school site as well to learn more details about your specific school.

### **MEAL DELIVERY SCHEDULE**

Routes will be updated as needed after the first week of school. Drivers will log student names and student ID numbers (found in Aeries Parent Portal) daily for accountability records. Buses will distribute meals at each bus stop listed and will depart bus stops at the designated time. If students or parents miss the delivery, they may go to Bijou, Sierra House, Tahoe Valley or the Middle School between the hours of 11am & 1PM to pick up meals. [See schedule here and on the district website.](#)

### **SCHOOL MEAL PRICES**

A price increase for school meals was adopted in August, pursuant to CDE price regulations. The new paid meal pricing is as follows:

Elementary Breakfast \$ 1.50

Elementary Lunch \$ 2.85

South Tahoe Middle School Breakfast \$ 1.75

South Tahoe Middle School Lunch \$ 3.35

South Tahoe High School Breakfast \$ 1.75

South Tahoe High School Lunch \$ 3.60

**Please do not bring cash to the meal pickup locations.** Rather, please prepay for meals at [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com).

**CONFIDENTIAL FREE OR REDUCED MEAL APPLICATION** – If you have not yet filled out your application, please do so now. Everyone that fills out the application, whether you qualify or not, automatically receives 50% off their Chromebook insurance!

(It took me only 4 minutes and I'm saving \$30 for two kids!) The application is **confidential and used internally only by the LTUSD food services department** to qualify your student for free or reduced meals. **Your information is not shared with any outside agencies and it does not affect your credit.** What it **does do** is provide your child with healthy meals during the school day and earns money for academic programs for your school!

**The AERIES PARENT PORTAL is now open.** **ALL RETURNING STUDENTS MUST** update their emergency contact information and review annual notifications online through the [Aeries Parent Portal](#) . Please follow the instructions carefully for information regarding [free & reduced meals](#) and [Chromebook Insurance](#).

Here is a [link to the 2020/21 School Year Calendar](#). ([Calendario 20/21 En Español](#))

**AERIES SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS PLATFORM:** Communications is a simple tool that allows parents, students, and staff, to easily communicate and to remain up-to-date with district, school, and classroom announcements. **You may customize your notifications by logging into** the [Aeries portal](#) and clicking on the **Communications Tab in the top menu bar. Clicking on your initials inside the bubble icon in the upper left corner.** If your preferred language is other than English make a selection in the "Personal Info" screen under "PREFERRED LANGUAGE" - click the drop-down arrow. **Click on "Notifications"** under your initials.

**Back-to-School Immunizations** - Childhood immunizations are required for students in California public school - please be sure your child's shots are up to date. **The district is not waiving immunization requirements due to distance learning.** For more information see [immunization requirements here](#) and low cost [immunization clinic information here](#).

**Preparing for Back-to-School Success: A message for parents from Childmind.org:** This year, hopes and fears about going back to school are so different from normal times that it's hard to know how to help kids get a strong start. There's no perfect answer, but there are things that can help. This week we've asked our learning experts what parents and teachers can do to set kids up for success during this confusing and stressful time. **For parents**, we've got tips for connecting with teachers, helping your child get organized, advocating for your child's needs, and setting manageable goals and smart boundaries (hint: you don't need to be your child's teacher).

**CAFECITOS Virtual Meetings:**

**Middle and High School parents Sept. 2 at 8:00 am via Zoom. See link for more**  
**Sierra House Elementary Sept. 8 at 5:30pm**

**Tahoe Valley Elementary Sept. 9 at 5:30pm**

**Bijou Community School Sept. 10 at 5:30pm**

## **MORE COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS**

**Hike for Hope in the Month of September for Suicide Prevention Month** - Please join us in our efforts to end the stigma surrounding mental health and suicide.

Throughout the month of September, we encourage you to get outside and walk or hike with friends and family, or on your own! We know that physical activity and spending time outdoors is good for our mental wellness so let's encourage and empower others to join us in this movement. All monies raised benefit the prevention, education and outreach programs at Suicide Prevention Network . [Sign up here.](#)

**Local youth ages 5-19 can participate in 4-H virtual projects** (South Tahoe Now)

Head, Heart, Hands, Health. The 4-H Youth Development Program offers many fun and educational activities for its members and it is now available for youth in the South Lake Tahoe area.

**South Lake Tahoe Mobile Pantry** The Food Bank of El Dorado County holds their SLT Mobile Pantry / Free Farmers Market in St. Theresa's Church parking lot every 4th Wednesday (August 26th), May through October 2020 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. If you or someone you know is in need of fresh produce and a week's supply of staple foods come on down!! We hope to see you there! For more info please email [info@foodbankedc.org](mailto:info@foodbankedc.org) .

**LTUSD's COVID-19 Resource pages** - Includes links to information and resources for families and students; links to flyers regarding coronavirus and [what to do if your child has symptoms](#); and link to [LTUSD Community Resources Page](#) .

**COVID Testing Site: LHI.care <https://lhi.care/start>**

**COVID-19 and Tahoe's Economy: Resource Guide:** The Lake Tahoe basin is feeling the effects of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Please [check here](#) for up to date information and resources to help you as local residents, non-profits, employees, and businesses.

**EDC Community Hubs**, staffed with family engagement, literacy and health specialists, work to strengthen families and reduce isolation and stress. They can help with various social services applications as well. EDC Hub5 also maintains a Facebook group where it shares resources, information, parenting advice and activities:

[www.facebook.com/CommunityHub5/](https://www.facebook.com/CommunityHub5/).

[UC Cooperative Extension Central Sierra](#) During the COVID-19 pandemic, you can help spread the word about Central Sierra resources to make sure everyone has enough to eat. **If your family, your neighbors, or anyone you know is in need of food, assistance is available!** Links to information about all Central Sierra food banks, WIC agencies, school meal sites, senior meals, how to **sign up for CalFresh/food stamps**, food safety, home cooking, home-based activities for families, and more are available on the following webpage, which will be regularly updated until the end of the crisis: **COVID-19 Community Resources**.

[Foster & Kinship Care Education Program](#) offers free training and community clinics on topics such as parenting, mental health, physical health and overall wellness. Upcoming trainings via Zoom include **Nuts and Bolts of being and RFA home, Nurtured Heart Series, How trauma shows up during adolescence, I Can crisis, and more.** The flyers are in English and Spanish.

**Links to your school sites for more back-to-school information and local education news:**

[LTUSD Website](#)

[South Tahoe High School](#)

[South Tahoe Middle School](#)

[Bijou Community School](#)

[Tahoe Valley Elementary](#)

[Sierra House Elementary](#)

[Lake Tahoe Environmental Science Magnet](#)

[LOCAL EDUCATION NEWS](#)

[DISTRICT CALENDARS](#)

A very warm welcome back,

***Shannon Chandler***

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