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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**2020-2021
 MEDIA RELEASE
 FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS IN
 THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND
 SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS**

August 11, 2020

Bear Valley Unified School District today announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. A copy of our Board Policy may be viewed online at www.bearvalleyusd.org or at our District Office, 42271 Moonridge Rd, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315. The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free, reduced-price, or full-price meal benefits. Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown here are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Children who receive CalFresh, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits are automatically eligible for free meals regardless of the income of the household in which they reside. Eligibility for a foster child is based on a separate application and solely on the amount of the child's "personal use" income.

Household size	2020-21 Free Eligibility Scale for Lunch, Breakfast, and Milk					2020-21 Reduced-Price Eligibility Scale for Lunch and Breakfast				
	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week
1	\$16,588	\$1,383	\$ 692	\$638	\$ 319	\$23,606	\$1,968	\$ 984	\$ 908	\$ 454
2	\$22,412	\$1,868	\$ 934	\$862	\$431	\$31,894	\$2,658	\$1,329	\$1,227	\$ 614
3	\$28,236	\$2,353	\$1,177	\$1,086	\$543	\$40,182	\$3,349	\$1,675	\$1,546	\$ 773
4	\$34,060	\$2,839	\$1,420	\$1,310	\$655	\$48,470	\$4,040	\$2,020	\$1,865	\$ 933
5	\$39,884	\$3,324	\$1,662	\$1,534	\$767	\$56,758	\$4,730	\$2,365	\$2,183	\$1,092
6	\$45,708	\$3,809	\$1,905	\$1,758	\$879	\$65,046	\$5,421	\$2,711	\$2,502	\$1,251
7	\$51,532	\$4,295	\$2,148	\$1,982	\$991	\$73,334	\$6,112	\$3,056	\$2,821	\$1,411
8	\$57,356	\$4,780	\$2,390	\$2,206	\$1,103	\$81,622	\$6,802	\$3,401	\$3,140	\$1,570

Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing them of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for enrolled children. Applications are also available at each school. To

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apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits, households must complete an application and return it to the school for processing or apply online at www.lunchapplication.com. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used to determine meal eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or program officials.

Requirements for school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits are as follows: For households receiving CalFresh, CalWORKs or FDPIR benefits – applications need only include the enrolled child(ren)'s name, CalFresh, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR case number, and the signature of an adult household member. For households who do not list a CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR case number, the application must include the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the signature and corresponding Social Security number of an adult household member. If the household member who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, the household member must indicate on the application that a Social Security number is not available.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the determining official(s), as designated by the sponsor/agency, shall review applications, and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the eligibility ruling may discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents may also make a formal request for an appeal hearing of the decision and may do so orally or in writing with the sponsor/agency's hearing official. Parents or guardians should contact the Child Nutrition Department at (909) 866-4406 for specific information regarding the name of the determining official and/or hearing official.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the Child Nutrition Department at (909) 866-4406. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown above.

Households that receive CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR benefits may not have to complete an *Application for Free or Reduced-Price Meals*. School officials will determine eligibility for free meals based on documentation obtained directly from the CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR office that a child is a member of a household currently receiving CalFresh or FDPIR benefits or an assistance unit receiving CalWORKs or Kin-GAP benefits. School officials will notify households of their eligibility, but those who do not want their child(ren) to receive free meals must contact the Child Nutrition Department at (909) 866-4406. CalFresh, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, and FDPIR households should complete an application if they are not notified of their eligibility

by **September 15, 2020**

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program_intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provide

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