Student Services: (660) 563-5597

Dr. Jerrod Wheeler, Superintendent of SchoolsMr. Michael Cohron, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Angela Rolofson, Director, Student Services

## **Our Mission Is Student Success**

Date: 5-21-2020

To: Knob Noster Public Schools Families

From: Jerrod Wheeler

Re: P-EBT Covid-19 Meal Benefit

## Dear Parents:

I am writing to follow up on our last update to provide further guidance regarding the new P-EBT meal benefit provided through the Covid-19 relief efforts.

Under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, families that qualify for free or reduced price meals at school may be eligible for a new one-time Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) of up to \$302 per child (Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 12) to help cover the cost of meals students have eaten at home on days that schools have been closed. Students can receive P-EBT benefits even if they have been or continue to receive meals provided by the school district during the school closure.

If a student is directly certified, they do not need to apply for P-EBT and will automatically receive a P-EBT card in the mail. If a student is not directly certified and does not receive a P-EBT card in the mail by about May 22nd, they can apply for P-EBT online. The P-EBT online application opens on May 22nd at: ca.p-ebt.org

The benefit is placed on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card families use to buy food. If you received Food Stamp (SNAP) benefits in March, **do not** apply for these new/additional benefits. The full \$302 will automatically be loaded to your existing EBT card. If you **did not** receive Food Stamp (SNAP) benefits in March, you must apply for this benefit by June 30, 2020 (see below).

The most efficient way to apply is to submit your application online at <a href="EmergencyMealSurvey.com/MO">EmergencyMealSurvey.com/MO</a>. You will also likely experience a faster approval process. If you're not able to apply online, you can follow the link below to the paper application. The fillable PDF document can then be emailed or mailed to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). You will find complete instructions and additional details in the letter to families below. Please review these important documents carefully:

P-EBT Letter to Families

P-EBT Eligibility Criteria

P-EBT Online Application

P-EBT Paper Application (hard copy to fill out and email or mail to DESE if you're not able to submit online)

## P-EBT Frequently Asked Questions

The Department of Social Services (DSS) will send families a letter indicating they are approved or denied. If you have questions on how to apply for the P-EBT benefit, contact DSS through the online chat feature at <a href="mydss.mo.gov">mydss.mo.gov</a> or call 855-373-4636. For more information on the EBT card, visit: <a href="mydss.mo.gov/food-assistance/ebt">mydss.mo.gov/food-assistance/ebt</a>.

Very Respectfully,

Jerrod Wheeler