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SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Kealakehe Intermediate School
74-5062 Onipa'a Street
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii
96740

July 15, 2021

Dear Hawk 'Ohana,

The Department is pleased to announce that all students at Hawai'i's 257 public schools statewide will receive free breakfast and lunch meals for the entirety of the 2021-22 school year, thanks to a nationwide waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The waiver aims to limit the possible spread of COVID-19 at schools across the country by eliminating meal payment transactions in school cafeterias, settings where students and cashiers may not be able to maintain proper social distancing. This will allow for a more efficient, contactless experience. Federal funds will reimburse state education departments for meal costs.

More good news: for the next *four school years*, *all of our students at OUR school* will continue to receive free school meals because we have become a Community Eligibility School. *Mahalo* for helping us to attain this status due to your diligence in cooperating with us to get needed family income and SNAP information.

Students will only receive meals at their school of enrollment. One meal per breakfast session and one per lunch session will be free of charge. Additional meals or meal items taken at the same session will be charged a normal rate. For more information, please review the Frequently Asked Questions page at <https://bit.ly/HISchoolMealsFAQ> or contact the School Food Services Branch at (808) 784-5500. More information on the USDA waiver is available at <https://bit.ly/HISchoolMeals>.

Please continue to check our school website regularly at www.kishawks.org. We shall update it every week with important information about school. Mahalo for your akahai and 'olu'olu.

Sincerely,
Janice M. Blaber
Janice M. Blaber
Principal