

Hello again and greetings from USD 467!

A reminder that next week Monday, July 29th, the district enrollment will take place at the Junior-Senior High building. Enrollment begins at 7:00 a.m. and goes until 7:00 that evening. You will be able to see who your elementary child's teacher is, check your junior or senior high child's schedule, complete and return a food service application and pay enrollment fees for your family. If you can't enroll your children on that day, please contact the building office to make arrangements. Those phone numbers are listed at the end of this article.

One form that you see every year is an application for the district food service program. While many parents don't take the time to fill out the form and return it at enrollment because they feel they won't qualify, each student who qualifies for reduced lunch pays only 40 cents per meal. This year the district, by federal policy, had to raise lunch prices to \$2.60 for elementary students and \$3.00 for junior and senior high students. So you see that qualifying for reduced saves a family at least \$2.20 per child per day. And they could possibly qualify for free lunch and breakfast. Plus, the federal reimbursement for each free lunch amounts to more than what we charge for a full paid student meal, so we have more money coming to the district. In addition, each student that qualifies for free lunches adds more state aid to the district in the form of at-risk dollars. Everyone that has a home telephone or cell phone pays an amount to the federal government as a universal service fee; the district pays for the internet for the students. This universal service fee goes into a fund known as Erate and we get dollars back from Erate to help pay for the student internet. The more students we have qualify for free lunch the higher percentage Erate gives back to us. So filling out a food service application gives the possibility of saving parents money, gets more state money for our budget and pays a higher percentage of the cost for student internet. Finally, by federal law, there are only 2 people in the district who see the applications-the board clerk and myself; student and family confidentiality says we release nothing that is on the application and we can say only if a child's lunch is free, reduced or full pay. So please go ahead and fill out the application, you may be saving yourself some money and helping the district even more! Thanks!!

Other calendar items to start the year are: Friday, August 2nd is Fair Day and all the district will be closed. On Monday, August 12th, Kindergarten parents are to come to the elementary building at their scheduled time to complete the ASQ questionnaire for their Kindergarten student.

On Tuesday, August 13th is teacher inservice all day and Wednesday, the 14th is a teacher work day all day with the WCES Sneak Peek from 4:30-5:30. This is the time to bring your child to the building and meet their teacher and see their new classrooms! The first day of school for the new school year is on Thursday, August 15th, beginning at 8:20. Breakfast and lunch will be served. The Pre-Kindergarten students will have their Sneak Peek on that Thursday afternoon from 4:30-5:30.

Monday, August 19th will be the first day for the Pre-Kindergarten kids and the first day of sports practice for the junior and senior high fall sports. You can find the calendar of school events on the district web page, www.leoti.org.

Two quick date changes: the district budget proposal meeting that was scheduled for July 22nd has been changed to July 29th at 7:00 p.m.; the regular August meeting that was to be on the 12th has been moved to the 19th, also at 7:00 p.m.

Thank you for taking the time to read this; I hope to share the good things that are happening at USD 467! If you have specific questions or want more information about what's happening in the buildings or district, don't hesitate to contact Lori Maxwell, WCES Principal, at 375-2314, Delbert Schmidt, WCJSHS Principal, at 375-2213, or me at 375-4677. Thanks!

Educationally,

Keith Higgins, Superintendent