

Dear Parents and Guardians

The Sangre de Cristo school district would like to provide all of our students breakfast and lunch at no cost for the 2022-2023 school year. In order to do this, the school district is requiring all families to complete the Colorado PEAK free and reduced form attached to this letter.

As a school district we receive funding through our federal government and our state government programs. Our school district also provides funding through our general fund to supplement the food program. This is offset by families, who do not qualify for the free and reduced meal program to pay for their child's meals.

As a school district we have an opportunity to pay for the meals for all students, however, this requires help from all of our parents and guardians. We need everyone to complete the attached free and reduced form even if you feel your family does not qualify. Your completion of the application will help us get the best numbers to submit to the state so that they can provide more funding for our program which means less dollars will be taken out of our general fund. This is important because we can use this savings to spend on more educated related programs.

There are other benefits to families, and to schools, other than the reduced cost of school meals. For example, a family that qualifies for free or reduced-price meals might also qualify for waivers or fee reductions for various school or district services and activities like sports, transportation, and technology. Outside of school, internet providers also offer households a reduced price for internet access if children qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

The amount of funding schools get from the federal government, the state, and the district can depend on how many of their students qualify for the subsidized meals. The forms are used to measure financial levels, which may qualify schools to receive more resources for students.

Our goal is to have the forms completed by the end of this month. Thank you for your help and support.

Dave Crews