

Summer food program feeds kids for free

Kyleen Krehbiel, USD 435 Food Service Director, is enthusiastic about our summer lunch program. “It’s great that we are able to provide free meals to the children in our district,” she told me.

We all know that learning does not end just because school is closed for the summer, neither does a child’s need for good nutrition. The Abilene school district, in conjunction with the United States Department of Agriculture Program will again provide free, nutritious meals that help children to continue to learn and grow throughout the summer.

“District cooks and staff will provide this service that allows children to gather around the table and continue their good eating habits within a school environment,” Kyleen added.

In addition to providing a free meal, Kyleen has collaborated with the Midwest Dairy Council’s “Fuel Up for Summer Fun!” program. Consequently, she has a collection of fun prizes that will be offered during weekly drawings.

She outlined Summer Food Service Program guidelines below:

- Who is eligible? All children, ages one through 18. Anyone 19 and over is asked to pay \$3.25 per meal; adults may not eat any food on children’s plates.
- When are lunches available? Meals are served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. weekdays from Monday, June 3 to Friday, July 26. No lunch will be served on Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5.
- Where are lunches served? Garfield Primary Elementary School, 300 NW 7th. Enter through the doors on the west side of Garfield. Please do not leave bicycles and skateboards on the patio entrance.
- Are there qualifications? No. There is no required registration, proof of income, proof of age, or meal ticket required.
- Monthly menus will be posted on-site but are subject to change. There will be a choice of low-fat white or fat-free chocolate milk served with all complete meals. No meal seconds will be available.
- Meals must be eaten on-site. Food cannot be taken from Garfield School.
- Children attending are expected to behave in an orderly fashion and will be asked to leave if they are not doing so.

For more information, contact Kyleen Krehbiel at 263-2630 or by email at kkrehbiel@abileneschools.org.