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# Shepherd School District #37

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May 22, 2023

Dear Families,

As summer break approaches, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of Shepherd Schools in helping make this year a success! We are wrapping up another school year; they seem to go by so quickly. I have a few pieces of information I would like to get to you prior to school getting out.

## Last Day – Friday, May 26, 2023

I wanted to send a reminder that the last day is a regularly scheduled Friday. School will dismiss and buses will be running at **2:30** as normal. If you plan to check out your student early, please make sure you contact the building secretary to let them know.

## Summer Camps

We have lots of summer camps going on this summer. If your child is interested in a summer camp please check our website under General Links or our Facebook page for more information.

## FREE Meal Services

We will have a summer lunch program here at Shepherd for this upcoming summer! Lunches will be served starting June 5<sup>th</sup> and running through August 10<sup>th</sup>. No meals will be provided from July 3<sup>rd</sup> through July 6<sup>th</sup>. Meals will be provided Mondays-Thursdays only. Meals are free for anyone ages 0-18 and can be picked up outside of our receiving room doors just down from the elementary entrance.

Breakfast and lunch will not be free for all students next school year. I am attaching the free and reduced meals application if your family would like to fill this out. They need to be filled out each year and do not carry over from year to year. We have an online application now where you will fill it out and nothing would need to be returned to the school, please see our website under General Links. [Application for Free and Reduced Meals](#)

## Upcoming School Year

The 23-24 school year will begin on August 29 for grades 1-6 & 9, on August 30 for grades 7-8 & 10-12, and on August 31st for kindergarten. Our open house evening for next year will be Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 PM. Please note this is the week before school starts. Please look for the August newsletter where we will send you up-to-date information on transportation, school meals, supply lists, etc. before school starts. The supply lists for next year will be posted on our website under each school tab and available at local stores in town.



### Safe Return to Schools and Continuity of Services Plan

The state requires us to update our reopening plan from COVID every six months at this point. We are currently in the process of updating our Safe Return to School plan and ARP ESSER plan. We would like to get some feedback on what you, as students and parents, feel is the best use of the ESSER funds or where you see the need for the school for the upcoming school year. Please use the attached link to take the survey and provide us with your feedback. A follow-up text will be sent to you with a clickable link.

Survey Link: <https://tinyurl.com/ShepherdARPPlan>

Both our ESSER Plan update and our Safe Return to Schools plans can be found on our website under COVID Return to School info: <https://www.shepherd.k12.mt.us>

Finally, on behalf of the staff here at Shepherd, I want to wish you a happy, restful, and safe summer break. Again if you have questions, please feel free to get a hold of the building principals or myself and you can always check our website and Facebook page for the most current information.

Sincerely,



Drea O'Donnell  
Superintendent

