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Ensuring All Individual Learners Reach Their Full Potential

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For Immediate Release

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## Scottsdale Unified Expands Free Meals for Children to Additional Sites

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (March 20, 2020) – The Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) is expanding its program to feed children during the school closures from 4 sites to 15 sites. Any child in the community between the ages of 1 and 18 is eligible to receive a free breakfast and a free school lunch each weekday. Each child present in the vehicle will receive two free meals.

The following sites are operational Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.:

- Navajo Elementary, 7501 E. Oak St., Scottsdale
- Tavan Elementary, 4610 E. Osborn Rd., Phoenix
- Yavapai Elementary, 701 N. Miller Rd., Scottsdale
- Tonalea K-8, 6720 E. Continental Dr., Scottsdale

The additional sites listed below will begin operating on Monday, March 23 out of SUSD school buses at the specific times listed for each location. Patrons should look for the Scottsdale Unified school bus. Meals will be handed to vehicle occupants; there is no need to exit the vehicle. Each child present in the vehicle will receive two free meals (breakfast and lunch).

- Hohokam Elementary, Home Campus, 8451 E. Oak St., Scottsdale, bus lane: 9:30 10 a.m.
- City of Scottsdale Apache Park, 1201 N. 85th Pl., Scottsdale, south parking lot: 10:30 11 a.m.
- Navajo Elementary, Granite Reef Campus, 4525 N. Granite Reef Rd., Scottsdale: 9:30 10 a.m.
- Pueblo Elementary, 6320 N. 82nd St., Scottsdale, bus lane: 10:30 11 a.m.
- SUSD Bus Stop, 7440 E. Thomas Rd., Scottsdale, parking lot, northeast corner of Thomas Rd. and Civic Center Dr.: 9:30 10 a.m.
- Oasis of Scottsdale Apartments, 7777 E. Heatherbrae Ave., Scottsdale (just west of 78th St.): 10:30 11 a.m.
- Redfield Elementary, 9181 E. Redfield Rd., Scottsdale, bus lane: 9:30 10 a.m.
- City of Scottsdale Horizon Park, 15444 N. 100th St., Scottsdale, west entrance: 10:30 11 a.m.
- The Bridge United Methodist Church, 4900 E. Thomas Rd., Phoenix: 9:30 10 a.m.
- Salem Lutheran Church, 6701 E. Osborn Rd., Scottsdale: 10:30 11 a.m.
- Scottsdale 59 Apartments, 5900 E. Thomas Rd., Scottsdale (near E. Tangerine Ave. and N. 60th St.): 9:30 10 a.m.

The meals service is intended to assist families with the nutritional needs of children, as all Scottsdale Unified school campuses are closed in support of <u>national</u> and <u>state</u> emergency declarations.

The chart below lays out how many meals have been provided to children in the community this week:

School	3/16	3/16	3/16	3/17	3/17	3/17	3/18	3/18	3/18	3/19	3/19	3/19
	Break	Lunch	Total									
Navajo	72	72	144	82	82	164	92	92	184	134	134	268
Tavan	74	74	148	135	135	270	122	122	244	160	160	320
Tonalea K8	41	41	82	58	58	116	71	71	142	135	135	270
Yavapai	58	58	116	96	96	192	99	99	198	195	195	390
Grand Total	245	245	490	371	371	742	384	384	768	624	624	1,248

In a recent Governing Board meeting, Scottsdale Unified Superintendent Dr. John Kriekard assured the community that the work of educating children continues, regardless. "We understand the hardships that school closures create for all our families – students' and employees' alike – and we want to stress that we are diligently working to best meet the needs of all," said Kriekard.

That support not only includes the breakfast and lunch program: it is being extended to the distribution of devices and Internet hotspots so children can continue their education at home.

Scottsdale Unified will transition its teaching and learning activities "from the campus to the cloud" beginning Monday, March 23. Principals and teachers received training March 18-20 as the district's educational services, administrative support and information technology support staff readied the online instructional model. Remote learning will continue until further notice as federal and state officials work to provide additional guidance to school districts across the nation during this unprecedented time in the nation's history.

Scottsdale Unified has taken a variety of measures to protect the health and wellness of students, employees and their families, as well as the general public, including:

- Canceling all large-group gatherings and meetings on campus
- Directing non-essential staff to remain at home and not report to work
- Allowing essential staff to work remotely and meet virtually
- Postponing all athletic and fine arts events, including practices, through at least March 29
- Canceling all facility rentals through at least March 29.

To help reassure the SUSD workforce of more than 3,000, the SUSD Governing Board approved a <u>resolution</u> earlier this week that guarantees District employees will be paid through the current shutdown period of March 16 to March 27.

The Governing Board and District administration are working continuously to prepare plans of action based on updates and direction from federal and state authorities.

As the SUSD response to the coronavirus situation evolves, updates are posted on the District's website at <a href="https://www.susd.org/COVID19">www.susd.org/COVID19</a>. We thank the public, parents, students and employees for their patience, support and commitment to overcoming this period of unprecedented adversity.

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## About the Scottsdale Unified School District

Located northeast of metropolitan Phoenix, the District serves the educational needs of students and families of 23,000 students across 29 campuses. Approximately 240,476 people reside within its boundaries. The District's award-winning academic, arts and athletic programs draw students from Phoenix, Paradise Valley, Fountain

Hills, Tempe and Scottsdale. A highly experienced, professionally certified teaching staff fosters a diverse and rigorous educational environment to develop the potential in every individual learner. Offering gifted learning, special education, career and technical education, and a variety of athletics, arts and enrichment programs and clubs, SUSD provides the rich environment today's students need to explore their interests, develop important social skills and grow into tomorrow's leaders. For more information, visit <a href="www.susd.org">www.susd.org</a> and follow along on social media: <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>: @ScottsdaleUSD, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a>: @ScottsdaleUSD, <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a>: @ScottsdaleUnifiedSD, <a href="Nextdoor">Nextdoor</a>, <a href="LinkedIn">LinkedIn</a> and <a href="YouTube">YouTube</a>.