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Pittsburg Unified School District Kicks-Off Summer Meals Program with Free BBQ for the Community

Pittsburg, CA...Friday, June 8, 2018 – Pittsburg Unified School District's Child Nutrition Department brings the 7th annual <u>Summer Meals Kick-Off event</u> to Buchanan Park on Friday, June 8, 2018 from 11:30am – 1:30pm. Buchanan Park is located at 4150 Harbor Street in Pittsburg. The free BBQ features hot dogs, hamburgers, a salad bar, health and fitness information, music, wellness activities, and live performances.

Additionally, the Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder Office will have a table at the BBQ where Contra Costa County residents can purchase certified copies of vital records including birth, death and marriage certificates. Instead of driving to Martinez, the "Records Within Reach" program will make it easier for Pittsburg residents to obtain important documents like birth certificates, which are needed for school registration.

Throughout the summer break, Pittsburg Unified School District is teaming up with the Pittsburg community to provide <u>free breakfast and lunch meals</u> to children ages 2-18 at thirteen sites throughout Pittsburg. The Summer Meals Program will be offered June 11 – August 3, 2018. A special thanks to Kaiser Permanente for sponsoring the 2018 Summer Meals Kick-Off at Buchanan Park, where more than 1,000 community members are expected to attend.

"This summer brings to the table colors of the rainbow, said Angelia Nava, Director, Child Nutrition Services at Pittsburg Unified School District. In addition to the Summer Meals program, we will continue with *Harvest of the Month* which provides structured education materials for students, families, and the community to engage in hands-on opportunities through our school site gardens (farm to plate), taste California grown fruits and vegetables, learn about the state's rich agricultural bounty and understand the importance of eating fruits and vegetables and being active every day. We will showcase our Charlie Cart, recipes, and taste testing at *Harvest of the Month* throughout the summer.

Health and wellness are a priority at Pittsburg Unified School District. The Child Nutrition Services Department has received national recognition under the Healthier U.S. School Challenge and the department's goal is to continually showcase healthy food options for school children as well as inspire kids about fruits and veggies that are harvested from their school garden. Every school site throughout the district has a garden, and each month nearly 600 pounds of fruits and vegetables are harvested. The harvests are divided among all the school cafeterias, offering children a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables with their meals.

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About Pittsburg Unified School District

Awarded the College Board's Gaston Caperton Opportunity Honor Roll award in 2016 for expanding access to college, <u>Pittsburg Unified School District</u> (PUSD) is one of 130 school districts across the nation recognized for creating opportunities for traditionally underrepresented students. PUSD is a K-12 district serving the community of Pittsburg, California. Founded in 1933, the school system is committed to providing an excellent opportunity for all students to learn. Comprised of eight elementary schools, three junior high schools, one comprehensive high school, one alternative education high school, an adult school, independent study options, and a preschool program, the school district serves more than 11,500 students. PUSD is located in the San Francisco Bay Area, fifty minutes outside of downtown San Francisco.