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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**City of Fremont and Fremont Unified School District Announce Summer Meals for Youth and Families in Fremont**

**Fremont, Calif.** – June 29, 2020 – The City of Fremont and Fremont Unified School District are pleased to announce a new collaborative effort offering summer meals for Fremont youth and families in need this summer. Every family can pick up nutritious food this summer.

Since March 23, 2020, in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Fremont Unified School District has provided approximately 11,000-15,000 Grab & Go meals per week that has helped to improve food security for youth under 18 years old in Fremont. The program originally began at four school sites and quickly expanded to a fifth. With no break in service, bag lunches will continue.

As the school year was coming to a close, several organizations came together in an effort to continue providing nutritious food to families beyond June 30, when the program was originally scheduled to end. The entire family is more likely to experience summer hunger as families struggle to make up for lost school meals. With this collaboration, a weekly 22 lb. box of fresh fruit and vegetables, as well as shelf-stable grocery bags, will be added for families in addition to the Grab & Go meal. Fresh fruit and vegetables are provided as part of the USDA-funded Farm to Families program with fresh produce recovery once a week at five school sites throughout the summer.

Participating organizations include the City of Fremont, Fremont Unified School District, Daily Bowl, Tri-City Volunteers Food Bank, Alameda County Community Food Bank, Compassion Network, and Fremont Unified Student Store (FUSS).

“Providing much needed food and fresh produce to those in our community experiencing food insecurity during this pandemic is critical,” said Mayor Lily Mei. “The City is pleased to support this essential program and partner with the District and key community stakeholders throughout the summer months.”

"We are thankful to continue our efforts in conjunction with the City to provide student meals over the summer," added FUSD Acting Superintendent, Dr. Raúl Zamora. "This proves our strength and spirit of collaboration to support our community."

Drive-up distribution sites include Thornton Junior High School, Washington High School, John F. Kennedy High School, Irvington High School, and Cabrillo Elementary School. Meals and fresh produce will be distributed at the elementary, junior and high school sites Monday and/or Wednesday between 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., and from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. at Cabrillo Elementary. Clients do not need to register in advance and it's open to all ages. The fresh fruit and vegetable boxes will be distributed once per week on Monday (Cabrillo Elementary, Irvington High School and Thornton Junior High School) or Wednesday (Kennedy High School and Washington High School) to any Fremont resident, while the Grab & Go Lunches will be offered on Monday and Wednesday to youth under 18 years. With these efforts in place, families have the best opportunity to have a healthy and nutritious meal.

### ***Distribution Schedule and Location***

**Thornton Junior High School**, Monday and Wednesday Meal Distribution and Grocery Boxes, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., (4357 Thornton Ave.)

**Washington High School**, Monday and Wednesday Meal Distribution Times, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., (38442 Fremont Blvd.)

**John F. Kennedy High School**, Monday and Wednesday Meal Distribution Times, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., (39999 Blacow Rd.)

**Irvington High School**, Monday and Wednesday Meal Distribution and Grocery Boxes, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., (41800 Blacow Rd.)

**Cabrillo Elementary School**, Monday and Wednesday Meal Distribution and Grocery Boxes, 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., (36700 San Pedro Dr.)

This effort is also made possible through the generous support of community volunteers. Distribution sites will be staffed with FUSD Child Nutrition staff, community and school district volunteers. Volunteer outreach is being conducted by Compassion Network, and among Fremont Unified School District staff. Community members interested in volunteering can sign up online: [Volunteer Sheet: Summer Meal Distribution](#).

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