

Fee Waiver Staff Report

Date: May 20, 2025
To: Douglas County Board of County Commissioners
Through: Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager
From: Terence T. Quinn, AICP, Director of Community Development *TQ*
CC: Steven Shoultz, CPRP, Assistant Director of Parks, Trails and Building Grounds
Subject: **Fee Waiver Request in the amount of \$250 for Douglas County School District Nutrition Services for the Free Summer Lunch Program at Challenger Regional Park**

OWNER:
DOUGLAS COUNTY
100 THIRD STREET
CASTLE ROCK, CO 80104

REPRESENTATIVE:
TARA JOHNSON
DCSD NUTRITION SERVICES
12812 NORTH HWY 85, BLDG E
CASTLE ROCK, CO 80109

Board of County Commissioners Meeting:

June 10, 2025 @ 1:30 p.m.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Douglas County School District Nutrition Services (DCSD NS) requests a fee waiver in the amount of \$250 to hold Free Summer Lunch Program at Challenger Regional Park.

II. BACKGROUND

DCSD has operated the Free Summer Lunch Program for the last 11 years. This federally assisted meal program aims to expand access for children to healthy and nutritious meals while school is not in session. DCSD NS provides free meals to any child 18 years of age and under. Current sites include apartment complexes, city parks, schools, city pools, etc. Most sites serve 50-200 meals per day. All meals are served by Nutrition Services personnel, who have been fingerprinted and background checked. All meals include hot and cold entrees, fresh fruits, vegetables, and a choice of milk. Sites are determined by a US Census map showing areas in the district with 50% or more kids who qualify for free and reduced lunch. Challenger Park is one of the only areas in Parker that qualifies. Also, many parents have reached out to DCSD NS about the need for the site in Parker.

III. REQUEST

The request is for a fee waiver in the amount of \$250 from DCSD NS for the use of the Challenger Regional Park from May 28 through August 2, 2024, to hold the Free Summer Lunch Program.

IV. STAFF ASSESSMENT

The Board of County Commissioners has the sole authority to waive or reduce all parks use fees and may choose to waive or reduce the event fees of \$250 for DCSD NS.

ATTACHMENTS

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Douglas County School District – Nutrition Services

Tara Johnson

Chef & Training Specialist

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Castle Rock, CO 80109

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To: Douglas County Board of Commissioners

I hope this letter finds you well. Douglas County School District Nutrition Services is expressing our interest in utilizing Challenger Park as a site for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to serve free meals to children aged 18 and under in our community.

The SFSP plays a crucial role in addressing food insecurity among children, particularly during the summer months when access to school meals is limited. By providing nutritious meals at convenient locations within the community, the program ensures that children have access to the sustenance they need to thrive, regardless of their socioeconomic background.

We believe that Challenger Park would serve as an ideal site for the SFSP again this year. Last year, we served 37,000 summer meals around Douglas County, with 3,500 lunches at Challenger Park alone. Your willingness to partner with us in this endeavor would greatly contribute to the success of the summer 2025 program, and make a positive impact on the lives of numerous children and families in our community.

If you are open to the idea of hosting the SFSP at your location, we would be happy to discuss our logistics and operational details further. We understand that you may have questions or concerns about hosting the SFSP, and we would welcome the opportunity to address them. Our team is committed to ensuring a seamless and mutually beneficial partnership. We also are seeking the waiver of the fee of \$250 for using the park during the summer to serve free meals to the children of our community.

Thank you for considering our proposal. We look forward to the possibility of working together to bring the Summer Food Service Program to Challenger Park and making a positive impact on the lives of those we serve. Please feel free to contact me to discuss this further or to schedule a meeting at your convenience.

With appreciation,

Tara Johnson

Douglas County School District – Nutrition Services