## Free school lunch for all ends; how to apply at WAPS

by ALEXANDRA RETTER

School meals have been free for all students throughout the pandemic. However, with federal waivers ending at the start of the 2022-2023 school year, districts like Winona Area Public Schools (WAPS) will charge for some meals again, as they did before the pandemic. Families can still apply for free or reduced price meals.

While meals are no longer free for everyone, families can qualify based on income for free or reduced price meals. They must fill out an application to qualify. WAPS is working to encourage families to apply for free and reduced price meals. School Board Chair Nancy Denzer said at the

board's July 21 meeting that she would like the district to do whatever it can to encourage families to complete the application. School Board member Stephanie Smith recommended stapling the form to other forms that all families get from the district, such as forms for ordering school pictures.

Communications Director John Casper said in an email that families can apply on paper, and hard copies of the application will be at the district office for families to pick up. Families can also fill out the application online on their Infinite Campus Parent Portal. The link will be at winonaschools.org/families. There will also be a form for use on mobile devices at winona-

The forms will be available this week, Casper said, and the district plans to email and text families about the application pro-

On social media, some community members expressed that families could face difficulties with having to pay for school meals once more. "I think it's ridiculous that any student has to pay for meals. Meals should be free to all students while in school," Dan Robertson wrote.

"Sometimes this is the only good meal kids get. It should be free!" Joan Beier

WAPS is also slightly raising meal prices in the upcoming school year. In the 2022-2023 school year, breakfast will be free, tary level, \$2.80 at the middle school level and \$2.95 at the high school level.

These prices represent slight increases from the last time meal prices were set. Prices for lunch previously were \$2.40 at the elementary level, \$2.80 at the middle school level and \$2.80 at the high school level. Breakfast was \$1.50, except for kindergarten students, for whom it was free.

The School Board approved the new meal prices at their July 21 meeting.

Education@winonapost.com

### Police seek dog after victim bitten

by CESAR SALAZAR

kers kers man

A couple was taking a stroll on a Prairie Island Park trail when one of them was attacked by a dog being walked by a boy.

On July 24, at approximately 3:45 p.m., Winona Police Department (WPD) officers responded to a report of a dog attack near the stone pavilion on the 900 block of Prairie Island Road. According to the report, a red and white "bully breed" dog being walked by a 10-12-year-old boy broke free and allegedly bit the victim on their

right thigh and right forearm. Bully breed refers to terriers, pitbulls, and bulldogs. Police say the boy and dog got in a brown sedan and drove off. The victim reportedly suffered non-life-threatening bite injuries to their right thigh and right forearm and had to get stitches on their arm. The case is under investigation.

The WPD is investigating the incident and is seeking information. Any related tips can be submitted to Winona Animal Control at 507-457-6294.

Local@winonapost.com

### WPD: Suspect tackled as he reached for gun

by CESAR SALAZAR

The Winona Police Department (WPD) apprehended a domestic abuse suspect after he allegedly attempted to pull a gun on officers during an arrest.

On July 20, at approximately 1:05 a.m, WPD officers arrested Michael David Kronebusch, 46, of Winona, on potential charges of threats of violence, domestic assault, felon in possession of a firearm, and fleeing a peace officer after officers responded to a call of an assault that occurred near the 400 block of Sarnia Street at 11:11 p.m. the night before.

According to police reports, Kronebusch allegedly punched a victim on the shoulder and back. Officers arrived on the scene and gathered statements from the parties involved and witnesses. While the WPD conducted an investigation, the officers reportedly came across a picture of Kronebusch posing with a gun that was taken the day before. Kronebusch has a previous felony conviction, which bars him from possessing firearms, under state law.

According to the WPD, as officers went over to Kronesbusch's residence to question him, Kronebusch reportedly ran into his residence. Officers pursued him inside and saw that he was allegedly attempting to get a long gun from a closet before officers tackled him and wrestled the gun away. Police say Kronesbusch was allegedly resisting arrest and told officers he didn't want to go back to jail. Police were able to subdue and arrest Kronebusch, who was taken to the hospital afterward.

Police say Kronebusch suffered a laceration on one of his arms from a vase that fell and shattered on the floor and also suffered a broken collarbone caused by the altercation. Kronebusch reportedly received stitches and medical treatment at the hospital before being taken to the county jail. The apprehending officers only sustained bruises from the altercation. The abuse victim reportedly only suffered minor injuries and did not require medical attention.

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