

March 26, 2020

West Jordan Police Officers Lend a Helping Hand



In a time of uncertainty, there are some things that still remain certain: the Jordan School District will continue providing food to students, and West Jordan Police officers will be there to help. Caught on camera this week, WJPD officers handing out lunches at eight different elementary schools in West Jordan.

“These officers and crossing guards are really making a tremendous effort to make kids a priority, even in this difficult time,” said Lance Everill, Jordan School District’s Emergency Operations Manager. “When we have these dedicated officers out going to schools, it’s showing that there is someone there to reassure these kiddos.”

Governor Gary Herbert announced the soft closure of all state schools in mid-March. An opening date has been pushed even later, now expecting schools to be closed until May.

“One of my greatest concerns in the pandemic is food security for children,” said West Jordan Police Chief, Ken Wallentine. “I’ve visited West Jordan schools at lunch time, and I am keenly aware that the schools may be providing the only meals for some kids. Our DARE and school resource officers know that, too. What you’re seeing are several moms and dads who love kids and happen to be West Jordan Police Officers doing what we do.”



With students having to stay home and go without seeing their friends, teachers, or resource officers, it can be difficult for them to have any sense of normalcy. West Jordan Police Sergeant

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JC Holt says if they can provide even the smallest bit of normality, they're more than happy to do it.

"Kids right now, they're scared. They sense the stress that the parents have," said Sgt. Holt. "Just being there, being positive, really benefits both us and the children."

"I couldn't be more pleased with what the West Jordan Police Department is doing to support our schools, always, but just as much so right now," said Everill.

Chief Wallentine notes that officers are practicing physical distancing while increasing social connecting, going on to say: "We're fostering social solidarity while we fight infection and spread affection."

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