We are pleased to announce the availability of the “Backpacks-to-Go” program for the 2020-2021 school year. The “Backpacks-to-go” program is organized to benefit children and their families in the Penn-Trafford School District. The “Backpacks-to-Go” program is offered district-wide during the school year.

The “Backpacks-to-Go” Program is made possible through donations from Penn-Trafford staff members, community members, businesses, organizations, and churches in the surrounding area. This program was developed in response to ongoing student needs with no weekend access to the school breakfast and/or lunch program.

Here's how the “Backpacks-to-Go” Program works:

Children enrolled in the program, by parent request, will take home a backpack with nutritious food in a safe, easy and discreet manner on the designated Fridays. The food items and included menu suggestions may be used for breakfast, lunch and dinner for Saturday and Sunday. Additionally, this school year we are offering the flexibility to pick up a food box once a month (with equivalent of two backpacks worth of food) instead of students receiving a backpack due to the unique circumstances we face.

The students will return the backpacks on Monday morning to be re-filled for the next designated Friday. We will be offering the “Backpacks-to-Go” on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month with adjustments made for holidays or the school calendar.

If you feel that your child could benefit from receiving a backpack as described above during the 2020-2021 school year, please contact Mrs. Lauren Traill, Elementary School Counselor or Mrs. Lisa Popovich, High School Nurse. Mrs. Traill can be reached via email at trailll@penntrafford.org or via phone at 724-744-2161; Mrs. Popovich can be reached via email at popovichl@penntrafford.org or at 724-744-0302. Enrollment in the “Backpacks-to-Go” Program is open all school year.

How you can support the “Backpacks-to-Go” Program to help our students?

- Contact Mrs. Traill or Mrs. Popovich if you are interested in making a gift card donation, food donation, or backpack donation to the program. Gift cards to Sam’s Club, Walmart, and Giant Eagle are appreciated.
- Food items needed: peanut butter (no larger than 16 oz. plastic jar), peanut butter: single-serving 8 packs, grape jelly (squeezeable plastic container), single-serving cereal, small boxes of cereal (for older students), instant oatmeal single serving packets, single-serving mac and cheese, boxes of mac and cheese, any single serving pastas in plastic, microwave containers, Chef Boyardee Pasta in easy-open cans: no larger than 15 oz., single-serving cup of noodles, single-serving tuna in a packet, microwave single serving soups, chunky soup in easy open can single-serving pudding cups (not needing refrigeration), single-serving fruit cups, single-serving mandarin oranges or apple sauce, granola bars, breakfast bars, Pop Tarts, gummy fruit snacks, microwaveable popcorn, single-serving peanut/nut snacks, snack crackers: small 6 cracker size, juice boxes, hot chocolate
- If you would like to make a monetary donation (donations are tax deductible), please make checks payable to Penn-Trafford School District (and write backpacks-to-go program on the memo line) and send to:

  Penn-Trafford School District
  c/o Megan Massarelli
  1006 Harrison City/Export Road
  PO Box 530
  Harrison City, PA 15636
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!