

September 19, 2011

Dear Parent,

The new school year is well underway and I hope your child is enjoying the nutritious breakfasts and lunches prepared by your school food service staff. The meal price has not changed and can be purchased for the reasonable costs of \$1 for breakfast and \$2 for lunch. Your child can purchase meals each day or you can prepay for your child's meals by establishing a meal account. Free and reduced price meals are available if you qualify.

I want to also make you aware how to prepay for your child's meal account. Students can only deduct the cost of meals from their account when their account has sufficient funds. A free alternate meal for breakfast and lunch is provided to students who do not have funds in their meal account or money to purchase a meal.

#### **Paying for Meals – Overview**

- You can establish an account to prepay your child's meals by sending a check to your child's school or paying online using a credit or debit card through the mySchoolBucks website at <http://www.myschoolbucks.com>.
- Students can only deduct the cost of meals if their account has sufficient funds.
- Beginning Tuesday, September 27, students with a negative account balance will be provided a free alternate meal for breakfast and lunch. Breakfast will consist of oatmeal and juice, and lunch will consist of a sandwich and milk.
- Food service managers will continue to work closely with you regarding questions about your child's meal account and to assist parents in applying for free/reduced price meals. Applications are available throughout the year and are processed within several days.

Your child's meal account balance may be obtained in the following ways:

- The food service manager will send a notice when there is a balance below \$5.00.
- You may access your child's account through the Parent Portal or the online meal pay system, <http://www.myschoolbucks.com>. You may also choose the option to be notified by email when the account balance is low.

Your school cafeteria staff looks forward to serving your child this school year. If you have questions about the school food service program or your child's account balance, please contact your cafeteria manager.

Sincerely,  
Eileen Staples  
Director of Food and Nutrition Services

Cc: Principals