

School Nutrition Program

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome Back! During the coming school year your child will have the opportunity to eat school breakfast and lunch.

I would like to encourage you to fill out a Meal Application. Federal Money from a grant covers the cost of free and reduced priced meals. Meal Applications are available at each office and online at <http://foodservice.onysd.wednet.edu>. All information is kept totally confidential. If your child qualifies for the program they are set up, with an account, identical to our paying customers. There is no way to tell our free and reduced customers from our paid customers. In the Elementary 68% of the kids are in the free and reduced meal program.

If you receive TANF or Basic Food your Children may automatically qualify for free meals – Please let us know. If you have been approved for Basic Food but do not actually receive Basic Food dollars, you must apply for free and reduced priced meal benefits by filling out a meal application and returning it to your child's school.

The School Meals program is a wonderful program! The menus are kid friendly and meet the recommended dietary guidelines. Breakfast and lunch are scheduled to insure the children do not go longer than the four hours (without food) maximum. There are at least two entrée choices every day for breakfast and lunch. A chef salad lunch and an Uncrustable lunch with fruit, bread and milk are also available daily. These meals are an excellent value even if you don't qualify for free or reduced program. The meal prices are on the menus.

If your child does not qualify for the free or reduced priced meals they can still take advantage of this program by depositing money on their meal account. **Payments** can be made: Online in SkyWard Family Access, at the office, or to the cashier. If paying the cashier, if possible, please pay for a minimum of one week's worth of meals at a time, to help keep our meal service moving fast. Please remember to attach your child's full name to the payment. Please attach directions if you want your payment split between multiple student accounts.

You can check **Meal Account Balances** on SKYWARD Family Access. It is on the Left under "General Information", then click on "Food Service". You can also find **Menus, Meal Applications & directions for Online Payments** at the school food service website <http://foodservice.onysd.wednet.edu>.

Charging: Students are allowed to charge a maximum of **5** meals. You will receive an automated phone call each day your child's balance is negative. Please repay money owed, as promptly as possible, to keep the burden, for this service, low on the district. All money owed to the district will need to be repaid in order to: check out of the district (forward transcripts), receive report cards and diplomas.

Returning again this year those qualifying for reduced priced lunch (\$0.40), receive Breakfast Free. Also K-3 reduced will receive lunch Free.

Please reapply, for free and reduced meals, anytime if your income decreases or household members increase. Approved Meal Applications are good through the first 30 school days of the next school year.

If I can help with meal applications or answer any questions please give me a call or contact me at 978-4111 option 6 or jcarlson@onysd.wednet.edu

Sincerely,

Jerry Carlson
Food Services Director