# THERE IS SUCH A THING AS A FREE MEAL

(AND A REDUCED-PRICE ONE TOO!)

Many families may meet the income eligibility guidelines for *free or reduced-price* meals.

**FOR EXAMPLE:** A family of four may earn up to \$39,000/year to qualify for FREE lunch.

A family of four may earn up to \$55,500/year to qualify for REDUCED-PRICE lunch (\$0.00). Free for the 2023-24 school year.

**NOTE:** Cafeteria check-out is the *same for all students*, assuring confidential meal status.

Applications may be completed online at:

www.paschoolmeals.com

According to national data, only 61% of families eligible for free or reduced-price meals take advantage of this opportunity!

Families may qualify and apply for FREE or REDUCED-PRICE meal benefits at **any time** throughout the school year.

However, the **deadline** for application submission *without interruption* of Free/Reduced-Price benefits is

Tuesday, October 17, 2023.

### YOUR SCHOOL MENU IS **DIGITAL!**

The Nutrition Group utilizes Nutrislice: an interactive, online way to view your child's school menus. With Nutrislice, you can:



- · View images and descriptions
- View nutrition information for each food
- Filter the menu for specific food allergies



- · Rate foods and see carb counts
- Access the menus with the Nutrislice mobile app!

Visit: pennsbury.nutrislice.com to see menus!

Questions? Call Pennsbury Dining Services at:

215-428-4100, x22201



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



## **PENNSBURY**

SCHOOL DISTRICT

# What's New in SCHOOL MEALS

School Year **2023-2024** 



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SCHOOL MEAL

- Age-appropriate calorie limits and portion sizes
- Healthy snacks with no trans fats
- Students must choose at least ½ cup fruit or
   ½ cup vegetable to count as a meal.
  - If a fruit or vegetable choice is not selected, students will be charged ala carte pricing, regardless of meal status (free, reduced, or paid).

# PENNSBURY DINING SERVICES: SERVING HEALTHY MEALS

We all want our children to eat healthy, nutritious meals. The **benefits** of eating healthy meals **at school** are students who stay alert, are well-behaved, and are *ready to learn*.

### SCHOOL MEALS are COST-EFFECTIVE and NUTRITIOUS!

Families can save **time** and **money** while providing **more nutrition** for their children with school lunch.

- School food service staff do all the planning.
- The food service department buys in bulk for the best quality at the best price, which enables us to pass along the savings.
- Our friendly cafeteria employees are happy to assist your child in selecting nutritious meals.

### Manage your student's cafeteria account online. *Easy to Use!*

- Go to www.schoolcafe.com/pennsburysd
- Track your student's meal participation and purchases.
- · Add money to his/her account online\*
- · Set restrictions or limitations to accounts
  - \* Transaction fee for adding money to account online (\$2.95 up to \$1,000 / transaction)



# CAN'T BEAT THE PRICE OF SCHOOL MEALS!

For just dollars a day, students can choose well-balanced meals to fuel their bodies!

#### **SCHOOL MEAL** (examples)

#### **BREAKFAST**

French Toast Sticks Sausage link Low-fat milk 100% juice

#### LUNCH

Toasted cheese sandwich on whole wheat bread Tomato soup (1 cup) Caesar side salad (1 cup) Grapes (1/2 cup) and/or Fresh watermelon/cantaloupe chunks (1/2 cup) Fat-free milk (8 fl. oz)





#### School meals are a nutritious bargain!

Every day, students may choose among several different meal options. In addition to the examples above, students may also choose among hot entrées, cold entrées, and a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables.

#### **MEAL PRICES 2023-2024**

<b>Breakfast</b> Price Reduced-price	ELEM	MS	HS
	FREE	Free	FREE
	FREE	Free	FREE
<b>Lunch</b>	ELEM	<b>MS</b>	<b>HS</b>
Price	\$2.65	\$2.85	\$3.25
Reduced-price	FREE	FREE	FREE

## SCHOOL MEALS DELIVER GOOD NUTRITION

School meals meet the *updated* nutrition regulations set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Specifically, lunch meals must meet weekly calorie ranges and contain less than 10% calories from saturated fat over the course of a one-week average.

### Every School Lunch includes **FIVE** Great Choices:

- Milk Fat-free white, fat-free flavored, or low-fat white.
- Vegetables A variety of vegetable sub-groups offered on a weekly basis. May include Romaine side salads, sweet potatoes, legumes, corn, and celery sticks. Students may choose up to 1 cup/day.
- Fruit Everything from grapes to locally grown apples. Fresh fruit is available daily. Students may choose up to 1 cup/day for high school, and ½ cup/day for K-8 (limited to ½ cup 100% fruit juice/day).
- Bread/Grains At least 51% of all grains served are now whole grain!
- Meat/Meat Alternates May include lean beef, white meat chicken, beans, fat-free yogurt, eggs.

Students are encouraged to select foods from all food groups, but they must choose at least 3 of the 5 food groups to get the school lunch price.

#### **PLEASE REMIND YOUR STUDENTS:**

To count as a meal, students MUST choose at least ½ cup fruit or ½ cup vegetables!