

Hi Parents -

There are a few items I wanted to draw your attention to:

### **Holiday Sing Along**

Our school-wide sing along is on Friday, December 20. Parents are invited to attend. The sing along will be from 2:30-3:00 and the gym will be ready for parents at 2:15. Many thanks to one of our music teachers, Mrs. Pyzik, for coordinating this long-time tradition.

### **Lunch**

I have been brainstorming with our PTO, staff, and the management of the company that runs our Food Services Program (Chartwell) to make our lunches run more smoother from an efficiency standpoint. This week our Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade students wear nametags that include their 4 digit pin number. Students give their nametag to the cashier and are able to move quickly to the serving line. Our younger students have difficulty remembering their pin number and our cashier often has difficulty hearing the student give their last name. This improvement has helped students move through the line faster.

Beginning January 6, we are eliminating second servings of entrees. In the past, students in Grades 4 and 5 have had the option to purchase a second entree. Hot lunch students can help themselves to additional salad and fruit at no charge.

There are also students who do not buy a hot lunch but want to purchase a juice box or milk. I would strongly encourage parents of these students to send in a juice box. These students are in the same line as the hot lunch line so they are losing some of the time they can eat lunch. Plus, there are students who are buying multiple juices or milks without parent permission and this is creating problems with lunch account balances.

If you do not want your child to purchase juice or milk or a second juice or milk, please email [ngervais@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:ngervais@troy.k12.mi.us) and she can put a note in your child's account.

We currently have 55 students having a negative balance totaling \$490.80. These families have been notified in writing so they are aware of negative balance. Hopefully, the changes I mentioned above will alleviate some of the unexpected food/drink charges. If you believe you incurred charges in error, please contact our food services department at [ngervais@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:ngervais@troy.k12.mi.us).

A few parents from our PTO have contributed money to a lunch fund. If a student who has a cold lunch drops the lunch on the floor, they are able to purchase a hot lunch from this lunch fund. This has helped alleviate unexpected lunch charges.

Our lunch period begins at 11:05 and our last group of students leave the cafeteria at 12:55. Most of our 460 students love their lunch and recess time and I am hopeful these changes will add to their positive experience in the lunchroom.

## Field Trip

Last but not least, I am sharing a few photos of our student council students reading to students at Troy's new preschool today.



Joyce Brasington, Ed.D.  
Principal, Wattles Elementary