



TWIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

4851 N. Twin Valley Road · Elverson, PA 19520

Telephone: 610-286-8600 · Fax: 610-286-8608

August 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. Our Food Service Department looks forward to another great year serving your child. Every day we provide a nutritious breakfast and lunch, meeting the requirements of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act. Your child can select from a variety of menu items to build a nutritionally sound meal and have a positive dining experience. Our meal program also meets the requirements of Twin Valley's Wellness Policy, which can be reviewed at www.tvsd.org.

The meal prices for the 2023-2024 school year are as follows:

Breakfast — Elementary – \$0.00

Lunch — Elementary \$2.45

Breakfast — Middle & High Schools – \$0.00

Lunch — Middle & High Schools \$2.85

Breakfast


We are pleased to announce the continuation of the Free Breakfast Program; all students, regardless of meal status, will receive free breakfast for the 2023-2024 school year. We strongly encourage students to start the day off right with a school breakfast and take advantage of our “Breakfast in the Classroom Program.” As part of this program, students come directly to the cafeteria after entering the building. They make their breakfast selection choosing three (3) or four (4) food items. One must be a ½ cup serving of fruit or juice. After checking out with the cashier, your student will head to class where they can enjoy their meal. We are excited to provide breakfast favorites, like cereals and healthy muffins, breakfast sandwiches, mini pancakes, and fruit and yogurt parfaits.

Lunch

A 30-minute lunch period is scheduled during the day. Five meal components are offered to students at lunch. Following the requirements of “Offer Versus Serve (OVS),” students can select all five (5), four (4), or just three (3) menu components. One component must be a ½ cup vegetable or fruit serving. The nutritional value of the meal is based on the student taking all of the meal components. Details of “OVS” can be found on the Food Services section of the District website: <https://www.tvsd.org/departments/food-services>. Additionally, menus are posted on the Twin Valley School District website under the Food Services tab or under each individual building. Please check during times of inclement weather as menus are subject to change.

Payment of Meals

The Food Service Department utilizes a Point of Sale (POS) system to streamline the cafeteria process and to assist in accurate accounting of your child's deposits and purchases. Each student has a unique PIN number used to access their personal account. The PIN number is assigned to your child when they first enroll in the district and remains the same from Grades K-12. Deposits can be put into your child's account at any time via two methods:

1. Visit  located on the Parent Portal on the Food Service page on www.tvsd.org.
 - SchoolCafé is a “one-stop shop” for setting up payments, accessing the Free & Reduced Meal Application, viewing menus and nutrition facts, and so much more.
 - SchoolCafé charges a transaction fee of \$2.25. Payments for multiple children will not cost more as long as they are submitted as part of one transaction.

- Download the App for your smart phone to set reminders and stay engaged with your account balances.
2. Send cash or check in a sealed envelope with the student's name and PIN number on the envelope (Please make checks payable to Twin Valley Food Service). Please note that while we do accept cash as a form of payment, it is not recommended.

Low and Negative Balances

- Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to enroll in SchoolCafé to set up notification reminders and view their child's account. Emails and phone calls will be sent to notify you about a low or negative balance. It is recommended to always maintain balances above \$5.00.
- Please reference the "Twin Valley School District Student Meal Charge Procedure" posted on the Food Services webpage for the complete District guidelines.

Free and Reduced Meal Program Applications

Information on the Free and Reduced Meal Program is included in this mailing. An application needs to be submitted online at www.schoolcafe.com (same as above). We encourage parents to complete the application using this website. The approval process is quicker and more efficient than sending the paperwork back to school with your student. If you do not have access to a computer, an application can be picked up in any school office or cafeteria. If using a paper application, please put the completed application in a sealed envelope and ask your student to deliver it to the office or cafeteria.

New for the 2023-2024 School year all students approved for reduced meals will also be free.

Free and Reduced Meal Program Additional Benefits

Along with a free or reduced meal, your student has access to many other benefits with the Free and Reduced Meal Program! Your family can take advantage of discounted trips, waived fees, and more, just by qualifying for the program. Enrollment in the program is confidential, and your student can feel confident in using these benefits without other children knowing. Some of these benefits include:

- Additional support and resources provided through special funding to the District
- "No cost" insurance for Chromebooks available through the TVSD Technology Department
- Waived athletic fees and club membership dues
- Discounted field trips
- Waived fees for certain tests

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Food Service Department at (610) 286-8536 or email me at samore@tvsd.org or Alison Foster, Secretary at afoster@tvsd.org.

Sincerely,



Stephen Amore
Director of Operations

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Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

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