



# SCHUYLKILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Food Service Department

### 2024-2025 School Meal Information

We hope your children will enjoy the nutritious meals and choices we provide in the Schuylkill Valley School District. You will find there are many selections available for your children to choose from.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**  
**THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA IS PROVIDING UNIVERSAL FREE BREAKFAST**  
**TO ALL STUDENTS. IN ADDITION TO FREE UNIVERSAL BREAKFAST, THE**  
**STATE IS ALSO COVERING THE COST OF A REDUCED LUNCH FOR ALL**  
**FAMILIES THAT QUALIFY FOR REDUCED MEALS.**

#### **Breakfast: Free for all Students**

- Features 2 or more entrée choices daily
- A variety of fruit and fruit juice served daily – students may take 2 servings of fruit (may only take one serving in the form of juice)
- Choice of 1% flavored, 1% white and fat free white milk

#### **Lunch:**

##### **Elementary School: 2024-2025 Meal Cost is \$3.00, Reduced Price - Free**

- A hot entrée will be offered every day. A peanut butter and jelly sandwich (served with string cheese & graham crackers) will be offered daily as alternate entrée choices
- A variety of fruit is served daily including fresh, frozen, and canned fruit – students may take 1 serving of fruit
- Vegetables including steamed vegetables, salads, celery sticks, and baby carrots are available daily - students may take 2 servings of vegetables
- Whole Grain Rich selections – students are offered a variety of whole grain rich products
- Choice of 1% flavored, 1% white and fat free white milk

##### **Middle School: 2024-2025 Meal Cost is \$3.10, Reduced Price - Free**

- Features 1 hot menu entrée choice daily plus daily options of pizza, peanut butter and jelly, deli sandwiches, yogurt parfaits and entrée salads
- A variety of fruit is served daily including fresh, frozen, canned fruit, and 100% fruit choices – students may take 2 servings of fruit (may only take one in the form of juice)
- Vegetables including steamed vegetables, salads, celery sticks, and baby carrots are available daily - students may take 2 servings of vegetables

- Whole Grain Rich selections - students are offered a variety of whole grain rich products
- Choice of 1% flavored, 1% white and fat free white milk.

**High School: 2024-2025 Meal Cost is \$3.10, Reduced Price - Free**

- Features 1 hot menu entrée choice daily plus daily options of pizza, peanut butter and jelly, yogurt parfait, salads with a protein as a meal, hoagies and wraps
- A variety of fruit is served daily including fresh, frozen, canned fruit, and 100% fruit choices – students may take 2 servings of fruit (only 1 may be in the form of juice)
- Vegetables including steamed vegetables, salads, celery sticks, and baby carrots are available daily - students may take 2 servings of vegetables
- Whole Grain Rich selections – students are offered a variety of whole grain rich products
- Choice of 1% flavored, 1% white and fat free white milk

**All menus are available on the district website and are subject to change.**

**Ala Carte Items:** Extra entrée's plus additional healthy snacks and beverages will be available for purchase to most grades on a daily basis. All ala carte items meet the Government's Smart Snack Approved Guidelines. Please note: students must have sufficient funds available in their account to purchase ala carte items. Students will not be allowed to charge ala carte purchases.

**Classroom Celebrations**

The food service department can provide smart snack compliant treats for your child's classroom celebration. Please refer to the district's website under Food Service for more information. A list of available treats with prices and an order form can also be found on the website.

**Free and Reduced Application Information**

You may fill out an application online by going to <https://www.schoolcafe.com>. If you do not have access to the online application, you may fill out a paper application. You can print a paper application from the link on the district's website under Food Service. There are also paper applications available in the main office of each building.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Free/Reduced Applications must be completed each year in order to receive benefits (if you qualify). The status of the former year is carried over to the new school year for the **first 30 operating school days only**. If we do not receive a new application for the new school year, the status will expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> operating school day and the child will no longer receive any benefits afforded to them under the Free & Reduced Meal Program. Please be sure to fill out new applications every year to avoid this. **The only exception to this rule is if your family is directly certified by the state to receive free meals. This occurs if you are currently receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Medical Assistance. If you are directly certified by the state, you will receive a letter from the Food Service Department notifying you that your child/children will be receiving**

**free meals. If you receive this notification, then you do not need to fill out an application.**

## **Payment Procedures**

### **Online Payments**

The food service department uses [www.schoolcafe.com](http://www.schoolcafe.com) which allows parents the opportunity to view their child's accounts, what they are purchasing, and view the current balance. This program also allows parents to make online payments and set low balance alerts which will notify you by email when your child's account becomes low. To register, go to the website and create a user name and password, then log in and add your child using their student ID number. The minimum deposit amount is \$20.00 and there is a 5% service fee assessed for payments made online.

**PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOLCAFE CUSTOMER SUPPORT LINE AT 855-729-2328 IF YOU ARE HAVING ISSUES ACCESSING YOUR SCHOOLCAFE ACCOUNT.**

### **Traditional Payments**

Parents have the option to submit a traditional payment using a check made payable to SVSD Food Service. Please list your child's name and pin number on the check and/or on the outside of the sealed envelope. Please note - there is a \$10 charge for checks returned as "non-sufficient funds". Cash will also be accepted but it is not recommended. If cash gets lost or stolen, it cannot be tracked or replaced. A link to print deposit slips can be found on the district's website under Food Service. If you do not have access to a printer, please contact the food service department and they will be provided to you.

**PLEASE NOTE: IN AN EFFORT TO CONTINUE TO FOLLOW SAFE PRACTICES AS IT RELATES TO THE POSSIBLE SPREAD OF VIRUSES, WE ARE TRYING TO LIMIT AND/OR ELIMINATE MAKING CHANGE AT THE REGISTERS. WE ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO DEPOSIT MONEY INTO THEIR CHILDREN'S FOOD SERVICE ACCOUNT. IF A STUDENT HANDS IN MONEY AT THE REGISTER WE WILL DEPOSIT THE CHANGE INTO THEIR ACCOUNT.**

### **Negative Accounts Procedure**

If a student account goes below zero and into a negative balance, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to replenish the account. If no payment is received, the Food Service Department shall notify parents/guardian through an email reminder and/or written notification. All reasonable efforts shall be made by the district to collect unpaid meal charges from parents/guardians. In the event that payment is not received in a reasonable period of time, accounts will be sent to collection.

**Note:** Students who leave the district for any reason are still responsible for negative accounts.

### **Unclaimed Funds and Refund Policy**

Funds remaining in a student's account at the end of the school year are rolled over into his/her account for the following school year. Negative balances likewise carry over from one year to the next. If you owe money at the end of the school year, it will be deducted from any deposit made at the beginning of the following school year.

If a student leaves the district, the funds remaining in his/her account can be transferred into a sibling's account (if one exists). Please notify the food service department if you would like the funds transferred to another student's account. If no sibling exists, the district must receive written notice of your forwarding address within 60 days of withdrawal in order to process a refund.

### **Graduating Seniors Account Balances**

Graduating seniors with remaining money in their account have the following options. All of these options must be requested in writing (email acceptable) within 60 days of graduation:

1. Refund – request a refund and a check is mailed;
2. Transfer – may transfer to a sibling or another student;
3. Donation – may request a donation be made to the food service department to be used to help families in need.

### **Early Dismissal and Delayed Start Days**

Lunch will not be served on early dismissal days. Breakfast will not be available on days that we have a delayed start due to weather.

### **Special Dietary Restrictions**

Please contact the food service department if your child has any dietary restriction due to a medical condition. We will do our best to accommodate your child's dietary needs if you would like your child to be able to eat school meals (a note from the doctor must be provided stating the dietary needs).

Please contact the food service department at any time with your questions or concerns. We look forward to serving your children.

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(610) 916-5726  
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Elementary School Kitchen – (610) 916-5715  
Middle School Kitchen – (610) 916-5580  
High school Kitchen – (610) 916-5492