

## **FAIRLESS LOCAL SCHOOLS MEAL CHARGE POLICY**

The School Nutrition Department is like a private business. As a result, they do not receive any general fund support. They must earn money through breakfast, lunch & ala-carte sales in order to pay expenses. Unpaid charges reduce revenue that affects our ability to pay our food bills, staff salaries & make improvements in the kitchens. **Take-out orders from restaurants are not permitted according to Fairless Local School District's Bylaws & Policies 8510-Wellness.**

### **POINT OF SALE SYSTEM**

Fairless uses a POS (point of sale) system. Any child who desires to purchase lunch or ala carte, will be required to enter their pin number on a pin pad. Kindergarten and First grade students will receive their pin numbers, as well as a copy of the pin pad, so parents may work with their child on learning their number and familiarize them with the layout of the pin pad. Each student at Fairless has a cafeteria account that you as a parent/guardian can deposit funds into their account (cash or check only), or you may use our on-line payment system **payschoolscentral** for a small fee. We ask that you use checks or **payschoolscentral** to add money to your child's account. Any funds remaining on your child's account at the end of the school year, will be applied to their account the next school year.

### **PAY FOR IT PAYMENT OPTION**

**payschoolscentral** is an online payment system which is set up to work with our POS system. When you use **payschoolscentral** the system will use your credit or debit cards and add a small fee, or you may enter checks or money free when you send them with your child to put onto their lunch account. You will need your child or children's ID numbers to set up their accounts, you may get those by going to your child's final forms. **Payschoolscentral** is a useful tool which allows you to fill out a free or reduced meal application and see immediately if you qualify. It also allows you to see items your child has purchased, as well as the ability to add funds to their accounts. Access our district website [www.fairlesslocalschools.org](http://www.fairlesslocalschools.org), click on District, food service, then click the box that says **Payschoolscentral**

You may request a balance refund if your child is graduating or leaving the district by making a request in writing to the Food Service Director, or you may transfer the balance to a sibling or someone in need if you choose. All unclaimed funds of graduating Seniors will become part of the Fairless Local Schools Food Service Program Clergy fund to help those students receive a meal if they need help. If not claimed on or before the Senior's last day.

### **CHARGING**

Fairless Local Schools Food and Nutrition Department's goal is to first provide a healthy and nutritious meal to our students so they are better able to learn at school. When lunch money is forgotten we have established the following procedures;

- Treat all students with dignity and respect;
- Encourage parents to be responsible for paying for meals and to promote self-responsibility of the students;
- Establish consistent department procedure regarding charges.

**If you do not want** your child charging, you may make a request in writing, to Julie Miller, Food Service Director at 330-767-7071 to add a **NO CHARGING PERMITTED NOTIFICATION** on your child's account.

**Elementary & Middle School** we strongly discourage meal charging. When your child reaches a negative balance of **(\$10.00)** you will receive **phone calls, letters** home, and notices through **parentsquare** weekly.

**There will be no Ala-Carte charging, and no Ala-Carte purchases will be permitted when a student has a negative balance.**

If you are unable to pay for school meals due to your economic situation, please contact Julie Miller Food Service Director, at 330-767-7071 to discuss other arrangements for your child to receive meals at a reduced rate or free.

All charges must be paid prior to Christmas break and two weeks prior to the end of the school year. There is no charging permitted two weeks prior to the end of the school year.

### **NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH & NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

Fairless local Schools participates in the National School Lunch and Breakfast programs. Some students may qualify for free or reduced priced meals. Access [www.fairlesslocalschools.org](http://www.fairlesslocalschools.org), for Free and Reduced forms or forms may be picked up from the school office or be sent home with your child, by contacting the school secretary. Only one application is required district wide per family. Free and Reduced applications may be completed at any time during the year, but we must receive a new meal application each school year. There is a 30 day carryover period at the beginning of each school year in order to have enough time to process all of the new applications.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

2024-2025