Briarcliff Manor UFSD – School Meals & Food Service FAQ

This FAQ provides families with clear, up-to-date information about the district's school meal program, current initiatives, and future plans.

1. Who is responsible for providing meals in our schools?

Our district partners with Whitsons Culinary Group to provide breakfast, lunch, and snack services at all school buildings.

2. What improvements will my child see this school year?

Based on parent feedback, we are implementing:

- New combi ovens at Todd Elementary to improve food preparation and consistency.
- Expansion of scratch cooking to provide fresher, less processed meals prepared in-house.
- A color-coded allergen labeling system and a dedicated allergy-friendly food station.
- More accurate and detailed daily menus, both online and in cafeterias.
- Expanded vegetable offerings, "Brunch for Lunch" days, and student taste-testing events.
- Updated pricing signage and itemized receipts for purchases.
- Cafeteria rebranding and repainting for a more inviting dining space.

3. How will I know if the menu changes on a given day?

If a menu change is necessary, it will be announced during the school's morning announcements so students are aware before lunch. We will also update posted menus in the cafeteria to reflect the change.

4. Will there be restrictions on snack purchases?

We are reviewing snack offerings and purchase practices to encourage healthier choices and better manage access for younger students. Details will be shared with families when finalized.

5. Can I add restrictions to my child's account, such as allergens or purchase limits?

The district's point-of-sale system can flag known allergens and apply purchase restrictions in certain cases. Families who need to document food allergies should contact the Food Service Director. While the system can help prevent certain purchases, families should also speak directly with their child's school to ensure staff are aware of any restrictions.

6. How is the district improving nutrition and food safety for students with allergies?

We are adding clear allergen labeling, providing separately prepared allergy-friendly menu items, enhancing staff allergy training, and working to make nutritional information easily accessible online and in printed form.

7. What is the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and why aren't we in it now?

The NSLP is a federally funded program that provides free breakfast and lunch to all participating New York State students, following USDA nutrition guidelines.
While the program offers significant benefits, it also comes with specific menu and portion requirements, as well as restrictions on certain fundraising events that sell food during school hours.
The district has chosen to postpone joining the NSLP until at least the 2026–27 school year so we can first stabilize and improve our current program.

8. How much do school meals cost?

Meal prices vary by building and item. Below is the current pricing:

Full Meals & A La Carte

Item	Todd Elementary	Middle School / High School
Hot Meal (entrée)	$4.25	$4.75
Tenders	$4.25	$4.75
Mozzarella Sticks	$4.50	$5.00
Popcorn Chicken	$4.25	$4.75
Cheeseburger / Hamburger	$4.25	$4.75
Jamaican Beef Patty	N/A	$5.00
Boneless Wings	$4.25	$4.75
Pizza	$4.25	$4.75
Salads	$4.25	$4.75
Deli Sandwich	$4.25	$4.75
Premade Deli Sandwich	N/A	$5.00
Bacon Extra	N/A	$1.50
Double Meat Extra	N/A	$3.00
Breakfast Sandwich	N/A	$5.00
Fries	$1.50	$1.50
Onion Rings	N/A	$2.50
Large Cookie	N/A	$2.50
Brownie	N/A	$2.50
Snickerdoodle Cookie	N/A	$2.25
Parfait	$2.25	$3.00
Smoothie	$2.25	$3.00
Rice Krispy Treat	$1.25	$1.25
Goldfish	$1.75	$1.75
Mott’s Fruit Snacks	$1.00	$1.00
Bagel	$1.50	$1.50
Yogurt	$2.25	$2.25
Muffin	$1.50	$2.50
Red Velvet Muffin	N/A	$3.50
Pop Tart (1)	N/A	$1.25
Pop Tart (2)	N/A	$2.50
Cereal	$1.00	$1.00
Cereal with Milk	N/A	$1.50
Hummus with Pretzel	N/A	$3.00
Fruit Salad Small	N/A	$2.50

Item	Todd Elementary	Middle School / High School
Fruit Salad Large	N/A	$5.00
Hal's Chips	N/A	$3.00
Lay's Chips	N/A	$1.75
Hot Pretzel	N/A	$4.00
Donut	N/A	$2.00
Coffee/Tea	N/A	$1.50
Iced Coffee	N/A	$2.50
Hot Chocolate	N/A	$2.00

Todd Elementary Snack Pricing

Snack Item	Price
Chips	$1.00
Popcorn	$1.75
Cheetos	$1.75
Chex Mix	$1.75
Cookies (K–2)	$0.50
Cookies (Grades 3–5, two cookies)	$1.00
Rice Krispy Treat	$1.25
Scooby Snacks	$1.00
Mott's Fruit Snacks	$1.00
Choc Chip Mini Muffin	$2.25
Double Choc Chip Mini Muffin	$2.25
Mini Muffin	$1.50

Please refer to the menu on the district website for additional menu choices.

9. What time is breakfast offered?

Breakfast is currently available only at the High School, beginning at 8:00 a.m. There is no breakfast service at Todd Elementary or the Middle School at this time.

10. What is available if my child does not want the hot meal of the day?

In addition to the daily hot meal, each school offers alternative options such as deli sandwiches, salads, and other rotating a la carte items. Availability varies by building, but generally includes:

- **Todd Elementary** – Deli sandwiches, salads, pizza, and select snack items.
- **Middle School / High School** – Deli sandwiches (with optional extra meat or bacon), salads, pizza, and a variety of a la carte selections such as mozzarella sticks, tenders, and fruit cups.
  Menus posted online and in the cafeteria will list the hot entrée and available alternatives for each day.

11. Does the district offer ordering meals ahead of time?

At this time, there is no district-wide pre-ordering system in place for daily meals. While the option has been explored, current operational priorities and logistical considerations make it difficult to implement effectively. Our primary focus remains on providing accurate menus and clear daily options for students. If a pre-ordering system is introduced in the future, families will be notified in advance.

12. How do I pay for my child's meals?
Families can pay for meals and track cafeteria purchases online through MySchoolBucks.com. This platform allows you to add funds, monitor account balances, and view your child's purchase history.
Students may also pay with cash directly in the cafeteria at the time of purchase.

13. How will I know what is being served each day?

Menus, nutritional information, and allergen details will be posted on the district website and updated regularly. Printed menus are available upon request.

14. Who can I contact if I have questions about school meals?

Food Service Director

Baase Fentress
foodservice@briarcliffschools.org
914-488-8208