



Tina Stiles

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Office of Food Services

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Dear Parents,

Back to school is an exciting time! As the beginning of the school year quickly approaches, our food services staff extends a warm welcome back to our schools and school café. This communication provides families with important information regarding our food services.

Free Breakfast

All enrolled students of MNSD are eligible to receive a nutritional breakfast each school day at no charge to your household. Free breakfast consists of four components: fruit/vegetable, whole grain, meat/alternate, and milk. In order for it to be charged as a breakfast meal, the student must select three components, one of which must be a fruit/vegetable. Otherwise, components are charged à la carte. All schools offer breakfast. Please check with your schools on how times and location of the breakfast.

Cost of Lunch

It is important to note, that although all students are eligible for a **free breakfast**, the lunch options are not free to all enrolled students. The lunch pricing for this school year is \$3.20 for elementary, \$3.45 for middle school, and \$3.70 for high school. The lunch meal consists of five components: fruit, vegetable, whole grain, meat/alternate, and milk. In order for it to be charged a lunch meal, the student must select three components, one of which must be a fruit/vegetable. Otherwise, components are charged à la carte.

Payment

The district offers two types of payment options, pre-payment and cash payment at the point of service. There are two methods for pre-payment. The first is by check made out to "Marple Newtown School District". The check can be given to your student(s) homeroom teacher or directly to the school food service manager. There is no fee to submit pre-payment by check. The other method of pre-payment is through the School Café website at www.schoolcafe.com. School Café charges a fee for service for the online pre-payment method. Families can monitor their pre-payment balance through the School Café website, School Café app, or by contacting school café 1-855-729-2328

Negative Balances

In the event that a student exceeds the pre-payment amount, a negative balance report will be communicated to the family. The district will not prevent a child from getting a meal. However, if you **are in the negative the district will deny a ala cart item.**

Free and Reduced Lunch

If you feel your family has financial needs for your student(s) to purchase a school lunch, there is assistance available to supplement your costs. Families are encouraged to complete an application for free and reduced lunch. The National School Lunch application is completed online. The link to the application is [here](#). **It is important to know, the application must be completed each year for renewal.** If you need a paper application, it can be downloaded on our food services website on the right side under Meal Benefits Info., [here](#), or please contact your school principal, Accounting Clerk, Food Services, Jordan Dziena, jdzenia@mnsd.org, or the District Home and School Visitor, Jackie Litz at jlitz@mnsd.org.

Menus

Each month the District offers a new menu. Menus can be found on our food services website at <http://www.schoolcafe.com>. School Café also provides menu descriptions, photos, nutrition and allergy information. Families can also download the School Café App from the Apple Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android) to view menus on mobile devices.

Computerized Debit System

The District uses a computerized debit system for purchases. Each student is assigned a specific PIN number that remains the same throughout the student's enrollment. In order for a student to purchase meals or snacks, the PIN number must be entered at the point of service.

Should you have any questions please contact me at tstiles@mnsd.org or 610-359-4269.

Best Regards,
Tina Stiles
Director of Food Services