

Starting September 4, 2008



DEAR PARENTS:

Things are changing in the cafeteria! , we have installed a computerized system that will allow us to accomplish several important things that are of benefit to you and the students. Time in line at lunch should be reduced, giving your child(ren) more time to actually eat and digest their food. All purchases will be logged so you can inquire what foods your child(ren) has purchased and we can tell you!

DEBIT CARDS FOR STUDENTS!

The best part of this new system is that each student now has an “account” with us. This is a debit account (not a credit account). This means that money is deposited into the account and then the student can purchase food items using that account. Each student has a customized I.D. card with a bar code. At mealtime, the student will pick up their food and the cashier scans the card and the computer accesses his/her account. If there is money in their account, the purchases are deducted. The cashier will let them know when their account is low. For a short time if there isn’t enough money in their account, they must be prepared to pay cash otherwise they must make a deposit to bring their account to a positive balance. If the student is eligible for the free lunch program, the computer will charge them nothing for the allowed foods. He/she can now check out at any register.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS??

- You know where your money is going. Only food items can be purchased. Cash cannot be taken out of the account until the student is no longer attending this school.
- You can pay with a weekly, monthly, or yearly check. You don’t have to hassle with spare change every day.
- Students enjoy having their own cards. It allows them to assume responsibility early in life. They’ll also learn how to budget their money.
- Each card looks alike so students on the free lunch program cannot be distinguished from paid account cards.
- Since less cash is handled, cashier lines will (after a short period of adjustment) move quicker.

WHAT DO YOU DO??

It’s easy! Your student already has an account with us. :

Your student will receive his/her new I.D. card. Bring the I.D. card and a separate check made out to **Sodexo** along with the deposit form below. Simply include a deposit form for each student with a single check. , Please read the attached info on “mylunchmoney.com” which will enable you to put money on an account via this online system.

We’ve put a lot of time & effort into putting this new system in place and hope that you will take advantage of it’s convenience. Once you get use to it...you’re gonna love it!!

Any questions or concerns should be directed to SODEXO Food service office 708-597-7712

DEPOSIT FORM

STUDENT NAME & I.D. NUMBER: _____

DATE: _____ **DEPOSIT AMOUNT:** _____ **[] CASH [] CHECK #** _____

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

Q. When can I add money to my account?

A. The best time to put money on your account is during breakfast (7:15 – 7:55a.m.).

Q. Can I still pay with cash?

A. Absolutely...although you will soon see that the process goes much quicker with the debit card.

Q. What if I don't have my I.D.?

A. You will have to pay cash...or if you have no cash, you will be asked to wait until the line goes down in order for us to look you up manually. That takes time. Lesson learned...Have your I.D. on at all times!

Q. What if I want to buy lunch for a friend?

A. Parents beware!! Talk to your student about this. We cannot be responsible for their choices.

Q. What if I lose my I.D.??

A. Great question!! It is YOUR responsibility to report you're missing I.D. immediately to the cafeteria BEFORE lunches begin. A code can be placed in your account alerting the cashier that a missing I.D. has been reported. The cashier will then be able to visibly check the picture on the screen, letting her know if it is or isn't you. If it is not your picture on the screen, the stolen I.D. will be taken away & that student will be reported for stealing. Please note: the cashier does NOT look at every picture as students pass through the line...that would only slow down the process. Only if an "alert" shows up on the screen will she look at the picture. This is very important!! We cannot be responsible for purchases made with your I.D. card if you do not report it stolen.

Q. Can I still get a lunch if I lost my I.D.?

A. Yes, but if you're going to use your account, you will be asked to wait until the line goes down so we can manually look you up in the system. Lesson learned...Don't lose your I.D.!

Q. What if I find an I.D.?

A. Bring it to any cashier (if found during lunch) or to the Dean's office. It will then be returned to the student.

Q. What if I use someone's lost I.D.?

A. If it has been reported stolen, the I.D. will be taken away from you and you will be reported for it.

Q. How do I know what my account balance is?

A. Your balance will show up on the screen. You can ask the cashier. She has also been trained to let you know when your account balance goes below \$5.00

Q. Can I use my debit card in the vending machines?

A. Unfortunately, no. The machines are not equipped for this.

Q. What is this "mylunchmoney.com"??

A. It is the credit or debit card method of putting money on your account. Please see the following flier for more details. Please note: A small fee will be charged for using this method of payment.

I hope this clarifies some of the issues that you may have with our new system.

**If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to call my office at 708-597-7712
Beth Pynn General Manager**