

Dear [PARENTNAME],

The Gettysburg Area School District Food Service Staff has been serving you well-balanced nutritious meals since the beginning of the school year. We want to remind you that we participate in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs. **Breakfast is available for all students, every day and is FREE!** When school is delayed 2 hours there isn't a regularly scheduled breakfast for our elementary students. A grab and go bag can be prepared for students that need a breakfast. Elementary lunch is \$2.50. Secondary lunch is \$2.80. Milk is \$.60. There are also ala carte items sold such as milk, 100% juice boxes, bottled water, fruits, vegetables, and a number of snack items. Menus can be found on our website.

Account Status

We are sending out weekly letters regarding account balances to keep you up to date on your student accounts. You have the option within LunchTime to select a particular dollar amount to have their account replenished automatically through the schoolpaymentportal.com. Example: When the student account balance is \$5, you can choose \$25 to replenish it direct from your account. You select the amounts. Within LunchTime you can make restrictions on ala carte purchases.

Meal Eligibility

It isn't too late to apply for free or reduced meals. Go to the school website, www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us, scroll down to the left, click on Free/Reduced Meal Information, you will see a green box to click on to apply at school cafe. The application process is very simple with limited information to fill out and can be completed within 5 minutes. The applications are reviewed and decisions received timely.

Culinary Corner

The Food Services' Department was eager to roll out new menu options and offerings at the beginning of the school year. Recipe demos and samples were offered for elementary and middle school children with an emphasis on healthy options and healthy snacks. The high school has been offering Grab-n-go Crispy Chicken Sandwich meals, "MTO Deli" and themed stations like "Tex-Mex", "Taste of Asia", "Food Truck", "Pasta Bar", "Homestyle", and "Burger Bar" with self-serve salad bar options like fresh seasonal veggies and fruits, lean proteins, and specialty sauces and condiments. We've heard positive feedback from our students and hope they are sharing their experiences in the cafeteria with you at home.

What's new for 24-25 SY:

The Food Services' Department will be providing the Middle School Cafe a fresh new look for the 24-25 school year. We have been working diligently learning from students in the cafe and Family Consumer Science classroom asking what their preferences are and what their "comfort" food and menu choices are when dining out. We will continue to provide demonstration cooking and sampling for the remainder of the 23-24 SY so that we can incorporate new serving elements and equipment that will support chef inspired menus and concepts to meet student dining expectations.

Also, the Food Services' Department will be going "cashless" in all elementary and middle schools next year. This is not a new concept and many surrounding districts have taken the same steps over the last several years in their K-12 cafeterias. Feedback shared from other districts is very positive and students, staff and parents are adapting well. Parents/guardians and staff will continue to be able to use the POS third party vendor to add money on their accounts. In addition, going cashless increases speed of service through the cashier lines and cuts down on transaction errors which can slow down the operation.

If you have any questions regarding the Food Service Programs, please feel free to call the Food Service Office at 717-334-6254 x1204.

#GO WARRIORS!

Sincerely,
Nick Milone
Food Service Director
Gettysburg Area School District
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