

TO: Parents/Guardians
FROM: Ione DeNucci, Food Service Director

Welcome to the 2017-18 school year!

August 2017

I would like to take the time to introduce you to our Luck School Food Service Program. Please take the time to read through the following standards.

The National School Lunch & Breakfast Programs set new standards as they feel the need to continue to serve healthy and nutritious meals to our students. A standard that has played a major factor in our meals is the amount of meat/meat alternate, grains, sodium, sugar and calories we are allowed to offer to our students. Another standard is a student **must take a half cup serving of fruit or vegetable** for a reimbursable meal under the Offer vs Serve Program, which is explained below.

Currently we offer Breakfast and Lunch service to our students. Our breakfast and lunch prices are as follows:

<u>BREAKFAST</u>		<u>LUNCH</u>	
Grades K-4	\$1.30	Grades K-5	\$2.60
Grades 5-8	\$1.40	Grades 6-8	\$2.75
Grades 9-12	\$1.50	Grades 9-12	\$2.80
Extra Entrée(7-12)	\$1.00	Extra Entrée(7-12)	\$1.50

Our breakfast/lunch programs offer nutritious, well-balanced meals with a wide variety of choices. The daily breakfast program includes a 2x grain or grain/protein, fruit, juice and milk. The daily lunch program consists of 5 food group categories consisting of meat/meat alternate, grain, vegetable, fruit and milk. A student may choose 3 or all 5 of these food groups.

We are working with an Offer vs Serve Breakfast/Lunch program, simply saying we offer each student a variety of 5 food groups and the student must take a minimum of 3 of the 5 food groups before he/she enters their number into the computer. The student is allowed to take all 5 if desired. AGAIN THE 5 FOOD GROUPS ARE:

Meat/Meat Alternate---Vegetable---Fruit---Grain---Milk

Please review this with your child and stress the fact that they need to take a minimum of 3 full servings of these food groups. They may take all 5.

NEW STANDARD:

Included in the count of these 3 items must be 1 serving of fruit or vegetable. A fruit and vegetable may be taken, and counted as 2 of the 3 food groups if desired.

The District uses a computerized accounting system for all payments to and purchases from the lunch and breakfast program. This system requires you to deposit payment into a family account. Each student in your family will be assigned a 4-digit ID number and will be required to key it in each day they participate in our Breakfast or Lunch Program. Each time your student eats, the system will deduct the daily lunch/breakfast fee from your family account. Students will be expected to keep his/her ID number confidential, and will not be allowed to use any ID number other than their own.

Payments to and purchases from your account can be viewed online through our Skyward Family Access. If you are not signed up for this access and would like to learn more about it, please contact the school. If an account falls below zero a daily phone call will be generated.

In order for students to be eligible to participate in our food service program the first week of school the following items must be complied with:

- 1. Any family account with a negative balance from last year must be paid in full and have a positive balance of \$20 per student.**
- 2. All accounts must have a positive balance of at least \$20 per student if not qualified for free school meals.**
- 3. All accounts including a free student must have a positive balance to purchase extra entrée, milk or treat.**
- 4. Students will NOT be allowed to purchase an extra entrée, cookie or extra milk if the account is negative.**
- 5. Completed and approved "Free and Reduced Price School Meal Application" on file, if eligible, or notification from the District that students are eligible through Direct Certification.**

Included in this mailing is the application form for the free and reduced lunch/breakfast program for the 2016-17 school year. **Please read the instructions carefully.** Please take the time to fill out the form as you are doing the District a service, in addition to benefiting your family. There are several areas of funding that the school receives based on our percentage of students signed up for this benefit. **We cannot approve an application that is not complete, be sure to fill out all required information.**

Return the completed application to the High School office, Elementary office, Myself or mail to Luck School District, 810 7th Street South, Luck, WI 54853. **If possible, please return the application prior to the start of the school year. Your application and the administration of the program are kept in strict confidence.**

The District will again be using Direct Certification for the 2017-18 school year. This is a process that automatically approves free school meals for children who are members of households that receive assistance under the FoodShare Program or receive W-2 Cash Benefits. You will receive notification from the school if your child is eligible for free meals under this process.

One last item to review again is you must keep a positive balance in your family account for your child to participate in our breakfast and lunch program. **Students who qualify for free meals must have money in the account for extra milk and/or extra entrées that they wish to purchase. And last but not least, any students, including those that qualify for free meals, bringing their lunch from home and wish to receive a milk must purchase that milk for \$.35 through the system. Please do not send cash with your child.**

NEW THIS YEAR:

Your son/daughter will receive a generic slip of paper at end of service line if their account has fallen below \$10.00 negative status. This note will not have a name or \$\$\$ amount on it but simply stating that your account has fallen into negative status and money needs to be deposited.

We have had wonderful success with our lunch and breakfast programs in the past and will continue to provide high quality meals that children enjoy. We will continue to make changes with the fast changing society and keep up with the State Standards.

If your child has any food allergies or special dietary restrictions please contact me at 715-472-3135. I have a form for you and your physician to fill out. We will do everything possible to accommodate your child's needs. Also, please contact me to discuss food options your child enjoys. We appreciate your input to our Food Service Program and look forward to hearing from you on any new ideas or comments. Thank you for your time. We are looking forward to another great year.