



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2009-10 school year! We hope you had a wonderful summer and are geared up for the new school year. If you have not heard yet, ARAMARK will be your District's new partner for the school food service. We are extremely excited to be here and look forward to serving you and your children.

We want you to know that we take this responsibility seriously and put your child's nutrition and well-being above everything. ARAMARK is happy to provide your child with nutritious and exciting recipes and menus, vibrant dining environments, and nutritional information and messaging to encourage healthy eating and exercise to maintain a well-balanced lifestyle.

We'd like to take this opportunity to share with you our programs and services for the new school year.

Breakfast

Breakfast is served at all schools. The breakfast menu consists of some of your children's favorite Kellogg's & General Mills Cereals, Milk, Fresh Fruit, Chilled Fruit and at least one hot menu choice everyday. The cost of breakfast is \$1.20 and reduced-price breakfast is \$0.30. Breakfast is served in the lunchroom 20-30 minutes before the start of school.

Lunch

Elementary students will be provided with a monthly menu sent home from the school, and the menu is available on the District's Website. Penn Trafford School District is still using the WinSnap computerized meal accountability system. Please look for a detailed explanation of this system with this letter. The lunch price is \$1.90 for daily and \$2.30 for Pizza Hut days for elementary students. Lunch for students who qualify for reduced-priced lunch is \$0.40. Each meal comes with sides/fruit choices and lowfat milk. Students can purchase extra milk for \$0.50.

Secondary students will have menus posted in the cafeteria and the menu is also available on the District's Website. The lunch price for the Middle School and High School is \$2.15 for Type A lunch and \$2.55 for Premium lunches - and for those students who qualify, reduced lunch is \$0.40.

Point-of-Sale System

The WinSnap system is the district's current POS or Point of Sale System. The POS system benefits you, your child, and the school in a number of practical ways. We hope that you and your student will consider taking advantage of some of these convenient options. Please read the following information carefully.

We will be using a computerized cash register system to ease the payment process for your child. Here's how it will work:

You can add money to your child's account by filling out an envelope and sealing the payment inside. The envelope should be clearly marked with your child's name, grade, and homeroom. If the payment is for more than one child, indicate how the money should be split (for example, Johnny = \$10.00 and Sally=\$15.00 - please put the ID number on the memo section of the check. Remember you can write one check for multiple children in a school. If your children attend two different schools in the district - at this time, we will need you to submit two different checks.

We encourage payment be made in the form of a check made out to “PTSD Food Service Account”. Payment can be made in any amount your budget will allow. Students who have money on account will not have to worry about lunch money every morning and will go through the lunch line more quickly at school.

You will be notified by a letter from the school if your child has a negative balance or is approaching a negative balance in his/her account. Please submit payment when notified.

All students have been assigned an ID number to access their lunch account. This ID number will be like a PIN for an ATM machine and is the same number as they used last year.

High School and Middle School Students will enter their ID number into a PIN pad at the cashier station. We encourage the parent/guardian to assist the Elementary Students learn their ID number so they can enter into the PIN pad system.

The district is continuing to use the MyLunchMoney.com account to add money into your child’s account online - so you will also have the ability to view and print out a copy of your child’s meal purchase history report. This history report will show all the dates and times that your child has purchased lunch within the past 30 days. Please be advised that when you first create your account, you will only be able to see your child’s history for that day. To view the 30-day history, if you are having difficulty please contact the school location and the cashier will be able to print a report for you. There is a fee when you add money to your child’s account in this feature by credit card or Echeck. There is no fee to set up the account and track students spending history.

Your Student’s Nutrition and Wellness Education

Our nutrition education programs encourage students’ development of healthy lifestyle habits and education in the basics of good nutrition. ARAMARK will be an active participant in your District’s Wellness Committee, so if you have questions or comments regarding nutrition and wellness, do not hesitate to reach out.

If you have any questions or concerns on your child purchasing ala carte items - you may submit a special request to the food service department and limit the amount of extra items your child may purchase.

ACE Nutrition Mascot Program—Throughout the school year, our elementary school nutrition mascot, ACE and his friends, share the *Stay Healthy* wellness message through a monthly program. An educational gift with nutrition fun facts provides a consistent opportunity to reinforce the importance of healthy eating, exercise, and getting plenty of sleep. Feel free to visit acefanclub.com to learn more.

This year, ACE and his friends will be participating in ACE’s Active Adventures, which will consist of different monthly adventures featuring various activities, sports, exercises, and nutrition facts. A sample of these themes include “Triathlon Adventures,” “Mountain Adventures,” and “Wild Winter Adventures.” Educational, fun, and functional giveaways will be provided each month so that elementary students can enjoy them and learn from them.

Wellness Wise Newsletter—Wellness Wise monthly newsletters highlight nutrition tips for parents. Examples of information shared include labels and snacking, meal planning and shopping, and eating more fruits and vegetables. Wellness Wise will be provided to students to take home on a monthly basis.

Treat Yourself Right (TYR)—This middle and high school communication program reinforces healthy choices and lifestyles. Through informative newsletters, signage, and frequent nutrition tips, students are empowered to make the right decisions for health and wellness. Examples of lessons shared include hydration, staying fit, and eating balanced meals. TYR newsletters will be provided to students on a quarterly basis.

Nutrition Education Materials—Monthly nutrition education materials are created to reinforce healthy eating with students and provide nutritional facts and figures. This year’s program will focus on broad lessons, such as food portions, the main food groups, and reading labels. Monthly fruits and vegetables will be highlighted to encourage students’ interest and consumption, as well as educate them on the benefits of eating fruits and vegetables regularly.

Student Wellness Promotions

Our wellness promotions include tasty, exciting recipes developed by our chefs and dietitians with the objective to introduce new, healthy menu items to the students, who eat in the same location every day, in most cases. These promotions offer fun themes and enticing recipes to ensure that the students’ taste buds don’t get bored. Examples of this year’s themes and special recipes include Asian cuisine, Italian regional favorites, minis (small bites), and world flavors.

IMPACT Jr. is the elementary food specials program.

FUEL is the middle and high school program. Feel free to visit www.fuel4me.com to learn more.

Special Event Promotions—Monthly promotional ideas and merchandising material templates, which can be customized, are featured to increase student excitement and satisfaction and meal participation. Promotional kits celebrate holidays and national events like Election Day; health-related themes, including National Nutrition Month or American Heart Month; and school-specific events, such as homecoming or spring dances.

Free and Reduced-Priced Meals

Applications for free and reduced-priced meals are available at your school. Please fill out the form and return it to your child’s school office. As a courtesy, all students who qualified for free or reduced-priced lunches at the end of last School Year will remain eligible until October 01, 2009. On or before that date, students must have a new application completed and returned to the school office to continue to receive free or reduced-priced meals.

Families who qualify for free or reduced-priced lunches also qualify for the same category of breakfast. If the income in your household changes during the school year, please feel free to fill out another application.

Food Allergies

There is a growing amount of food allergies and intolerances occurring in children. Please let us know if your child has any special dietary restrictions, and we will try to accommodate them as much as possible. In each kitchen, there is a booklet with the ingredients for all the product labels used in each dish, for better referencing of the ingredients used.

Again, welcome to the 2009-10 school year. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding any aspect of the Food Service Program at your child’s school, please feel free to contact Robin Duff at (724)744-2664, and I will be more than happy to assist you.

Also, from time to time, we will reach out to you to obtain your feedback regarding the Food Service Program through our ViewPoint Survey process. We hope you will take the time to share your thoughts and ideas with us throughout the year.

Thank you for your support and cooperation. We look forward to a successful school year!

Robin Duff
Penn Trafford School District
Food Service Director
ARAMARK Education

