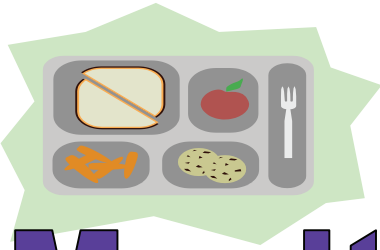


PICKERINGTON LOCAL SCHOOLS



Mealtime Messenger



2011 - 2012 SCHOOL YEAR

ALL THE INFORMATION YOU WILL EVER NEED TO
KNOW ABOUT BUYING MEALS AT SCHOOL.

Judy Riley - Food Service Director

Ginny Duemmel - Assistant Food Service Director

Debbie Reisiger - Food Service Secretary

Offering

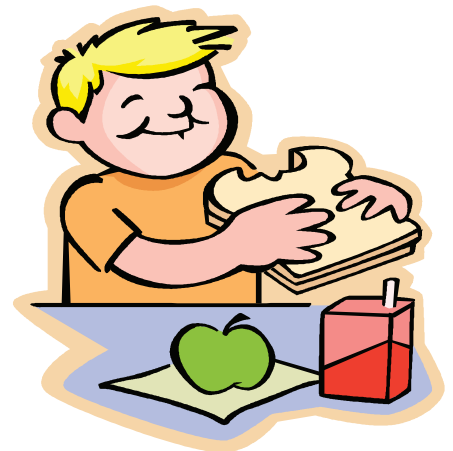
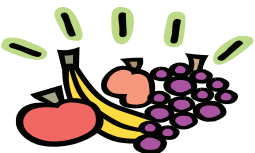
- * Easy Pre-Payment Options (Cash, Check, Debit or Credit Card)
- * Detailed History of Student Purchases
- * Questions and Answers

Featuring

- * Cycle Menu for All K thru 6 Schools
- * Nutritional Information for Menu Items
- * More Variety of Fruits and Vegetables
- * Whole Grains offered daily

Encouraging

- * Good Nutrition
- * Good Food Choices



PROVIDING MEALS IN A SAFE, SANITARY AND COST EFFECTIVE MANNER

About our Food Services

- * Each kitchen manager, along with second in command has received the Serve Safe Certification which is accredited by the American National Standards Institute - Conference for Food Protection.
- * Each Food Service employee is properly trained in basic food sanitation. Yearly training with our school nurse is also held and topics such as: food allergies, basic first aid training, carbohydrate counts relating to diabetic students, as well as other necessary information is shared.
- * Implement safety and sanitation standards that are in compliance with the Fairfield and Franklin County Health Department and the Ohio Department of Health.
- * Distribute lunch and breakfast menus to students that meet the nutritional requirements of the Federal Guidelines of the National School Lunch Program.
- * Manage the annual food service budget and maintain the fiscal responsibility.
- * Cater special events, including extra curricular activities to students, staff and provide parent luncheons.
- * Serve breakfast at the following schools: Diley, Harmon, Tollgate Middle, Tussing, Fairfield, Heritage and Ridgeview.
- * Healthy choices at all buildings served daily; whole grains, fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh made salads and wraps, as well as other healthy choice options.
- * Additional choice entrees are available at the elementary and middle school level. At the elementary students may choose from the following: grilled cheese, assorted salads, yogurt, egg omelet or the main entrée. Middle school students may choose the following: assorted salads, yogurt, egg omelet or the main entrée. Choice of burgers, hotdogs and grilled or breaded chicken patties are also available. PBJ uncrustable is available at Diley and Harmon only.
- * Continue to have available the nutritional information for school menus. Ingredient information can be available upon request.

**PICKERINGTON LOCAL SCHOOLS
STRIVES TO PROVIDE SAFE, NUTRITIOUS FOOD.
HOWEVER, WE CANNOT GUARANTEE TRACE AMOUNTS
OF POTENTIAL ALLERGENS NOT LISTED ON FOOD LABELS
FOR SENSITIVE INDIVIDUALS.
SPECIAL DIETARY & ALLERGY NEEDS
PLEASE FILL OUT THE EATING & FEEDING EVALUATION:
CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FORM THAT IS AVAILABLE
ON THE FOOD SERVICE WEB SITE FOUND AT WWW.PICKERINGTON.K12.OH.US
OR CALL OUR OFFICE AT 614-833-3645**

HELPFUL INFORMATION TO GUIDE YOU AND YOUR STUDENT THROUGH MEALTIME AT SCHOOL

The Pickerington Local School District has a computerized point-of-sale (POS) system that makes paying for meals SO MUCH EASIER!

Benefits of Using the Point-of-Sale

Staff and students receive faster service in check out lines.

Send lunch money by the week or month.

Full-pay, Reduced, and Free Meal accounts are all handled in the same manner.

Detailed information and lunch account reports are available to families at www.Mealpayplus.com or calling [1-866-711-7341](tel:1-866-711-7341)

How does the point-of-sale system work?

Each student has a student lunch account, complete with a personal identification (pin) number.

The account is accessed by using the numeric keypad at the cashier station.

Student's photo (if taken) appears on the screen when the pin number is entered. The cashier is required to verify the student's identity before ringing the sale. Money can be deposited into the account at any time.

How do I get my student's pin number?

Students are given an ID number upon enrollment that remains with your student while attending Pickerington Local School District. This ID number is also the pin number for your student.

At the 7-12 grade levels, the student's ID number will appear on a class schedule.

The K-6 students can get their ID number from the homeroom teachers.

The school office can provide the number or you may call the Food Service office for assistance at [614-833-3645](tel:614-833-3645).

What if someone accidentally enters a wrong number?

Every time an account is accessed, the student name and photo (if taken) will appear on the screen. The cashier will say, "Thank you, (name)." If needed, a correction is immediately made. If a number is used more than once, a special message alerts the cashier.

Why should I be interested in this system? My child never eats in the cafeteria OR I prefer to send cash like I have in the past.

It is there if or when you need it.

How can I pre-pay money on my student's account?

There are three convenient ways to do this. You can send money to school, or you can add money to the lunch account through www.Mealpayplus.com, or you can call [1-866-711-7341](tel:1-866-711-7341). Please note that there is a \$2.00 fee to make a financial transaction. All other features are free.

May I send money for more than one child if they are in different school buildings?

No, if your children attend different schools you must send a separate check to each school. The only way to add money to all of your children's accounts at one time is through the Mealpayplus system. Checks sent to school should be payable to Pickerington School Food Service. Be sure their name and pin number are written in the memo section of the check. **NO STARTER CHECKS!!!**

May my child continue to pay cash for meals?

Yes. We cannot be responsible for lost cash. Also, we cannot accept foreign coins due to the fact that our bank does not accept them.

May anyone use my child's lunch account such as a brother or sister?

No. Only the person to whom the account has been assigned may use the account.

What if my child still has money in their account at the end of the school year?

We will carry your child's balance to the next school year. Should a student move out of the school district or graduate, any amount over \$5.00 will be refunded in the form of a check if so requested.

Student Lunch Accounts operate on a **DEBIT SYSTEM - NOT A CREDIT CARD SYSTEM**
Money should be placed on your student's lunch account **PRIOR**
to the days your child needs to purchase a meal.

How can I find out if the lunch account is getting low on funds or has a negative balance?

You can log into www.Mealpayplus.com or call **1-866-711-7341** and use your student's pin number to get a balance. Letters are sent home with elementary students when they have a negative balance.

What happens when the account has a negative balance?

Negative balance notices are sent home with elementary children weekly. Balances may also be checked at any time at www.Mealpayplus.com or by calling **1-866-711-7341**. You will need your student's pin number to check balances. While high school, junior high and middle school students are not permitted to charge, children in grades 1 thru 4 may charge up to \$6.00 which is equal to 3 lunches. No extra items may be charged and no breakfast may be charged. When the student has reached the charge limit of \$6.00, meals may be denied.

PLEASE SEE NOTICE ON BACK PAGE REGARDING CHARGING LUNCHES DURING THE LAST THREE WEEKS OF SCHOOL.

Can I send one check for lunch and any other fees or activities?

No. It is necessary that lunch money be kept separate from other school funds. We cannot separate other types of fees i.e. bookfair, school fees, athletic fees, etc. from the lunchroom account. Also, we cannot give change from checks made out to Food Service for such fees.

Can my child get cash back?

Change **will not** be given back to students in elementary and middle schools. Any cash back will accumulate in the lunch account for later use. No change will ever be given back from a check, nor will we cash a check for other use. We will not take money from an account for other purposes.

How can I make sure my child is eating only a lunch each day and not buying extras?

Our point of sale system has two types of accounts. The **meal account** allows a child to buy only one student lunch each day. Any extras would have to be paid for in cash from the student. The **general account** allows the student to buy lunches and extra items. You may request to have all money put into one of the accounts or you may divide it between the two accounts to allow your student to purchase extras. Money cannot be switched from one type of account to another unless the parent contacts the Food Service Office at **614-833-3645**.

What if my child's account shows a meal was eaten when I know that I packed a lunch?

There have been some instances of hungry, growing kids who have eaten their home-packed lunch on the bus or on the way to school. If the school is offering a popular menu for lunch, the child may be tempted to have lunch at school instead of eating a packed lunch. Personnel in the Food Service Office will gladly research any purchases you question.

What if I have a question regarding my child's account or account balance?

You may call the Food Service Office at **614-833-3645**. We will make every effort to answer your question at that time. If we need to do further research we will return your call in a timely manner. For account balances please call **1-866-711-7341**. You will need your student's pin number.

When may I start putting money into my child's account?

Prepayments with checks, credit cards and debit cards may be placed on a student's lunch account beginning Sunday, August 21, 2011. Simply log onto www.Mealpayplus.com or call **1-866-711-7341**.

Do I have to make a payment in order to use Mealpayplus?

No. Besides making payments, Mealpayplus may also be used to track your child's spending, get account balances, and set up low balance email notifications. It is suggested that you set this threshold at \$6.00.

What happens if I have a check returned by my bank to Food Service?

If a check you write for your child's lunch account is returned by the bank for any reason, the amount of the check plus a \$10.00 returned check fee will be deducted from your child's lunch account. The returned check will be sent back to the household. Note: this could possibly put the student's lunch account into a negative balance and affect their ability to receive a lunch.

I have concerns about my child's food allergies. Is there a way to be sure my child does not eat something that may be harmful?

Yes. Our POS system allows for message alerts to notify cashiers of special or specific circumstances involving students. Please fill out the Eating and Feeding Evaluation Children With Special Needs form and return it to the Food Service Department. Form located in this book and on the District website: www.pickerington.k12.oh.us under forms.

FIGURE 1. EATING AND FEEDING EVALUATION: CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

PART A			
Student's Name		Age	
Name of School		Grade Level	Classroom
Does the child have a disability? If Yes, describe the major life activities affected by the disability.		Yes	No
Does the child have special nutritional or feeding needs? If Yes, complete Part B of this form and have it signed by a licensed physician.		Yes	No
If the child is not disabled, does the child have special nutritional or feeding needs? If Yes, complete Part B of this form and have it signed by a recognized medical authority.		Yes	No
If the child does not require special meals, the parent can sign at the bottom and return the form to the school food service.			
PART B			
List any dietary restrictions or special diet.			
List any allergies or food intolerances to avoid.			
List foods to be substituted.			
List foods that need the following change in texture. If all foods need to be prepared in this manner, indicate "All." Cut up or chopped into bite size pieces: Finely ground: Pureed:			
List any special equipment or utensils that are needed.			
Indicate any other comments about the child's eating or feeding patterns.			
Parent's Signature		Date:	
Physician or Medical Authority's Signature		Date:	

FIGURE 2. INFORMATION CARD

Student's Name	Teacher's Name
Special Diet or Dietary Restrictions	
Food Allergies or Intolerances	
Food Substitutions	
Foods Requiring Texture Modifications: Chopped: Finely Ground: Pureed or Blended:	
Other Diet Modifications:	
Feeding Techniques	
Supplemental Feedings	
Physician or Medical Authority: Name Telephone Fax	
Additional Contact: Name Telephone Fax	Additional Contact: Name Telephone Fax
School Food Service Representative/Person Completing Form: Title Signature	Date:

ATTENTION !!!



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

May charge up to \$6.00 or the equivalent of three student lunches.
After charging \$6.00, students will be denied a student lunch.



MIDDLE, JUNIOR, AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Absolutely no charging of lunches is allowed.
You must have money to receive a meal.

IMPORTANT

During the last two weeks of school, no charging of any meals will be allowed. If your student has a negative balance, or a balance not high enough to cover the cost of a lunch, the balance will need to be paid or increased prior to the student receiving lunch.

Use www.Mealpayplus.com or call **1-866-711-7341** if you need to know the balance in your student's lunch account. You may also check the status of your Free/Reduced Lunch application by calling **1-866-711-7341**.

The Pickerington School Food Service Department

Announces The Implementation of **MEAL PAY PLUS**

Managing your child's
school lunch account
just got easier . . .



**Make payments and check balances in your
child's lunch account quickly and securely.**

You can now make automated prepayments AND check on your
child's lunch account via the telephone or Internet. Simply dial in or log
on and use a credit card or check to fund your child's lunch account. All at
your convenience - from home, car, office, or on the road. It couldn't be
easier!

**Prepay by
Internet or phone . . .**



- . Prepay with your VISA, MasterCard, Discover or a check
- . Available 24/7 for your convenience
- . Easy access to your child's account balance
- . No more lost or stolen money
- . Quick, Easy, and Secure
- . Email notification when account balance is low
- . There is a \$2.00 charge for any financial transaction. All other features are free!

For more information visit:
www.mealpayplus.com

1. Simply Log On To:
www.mealpayplus.com
2. Register your child into the K-12
school lunch prepayment system
3. Make a prepayment or check on
your child's lunch account using
the website

It's That Easy !!!


sign-up today at:

1-(866)-711-7341

or

www.mealpayplus.com

**Any questions, please call
1-614-833-3645**

 **Our Upgraded System
Allows Payments To Be
Received In Your Student's
Lunch Account Within
1/2 Hour**

**PLAN AHEAD CHART
2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR
Information to Assist Parents in Calculating Pre-Payments for Students Meal Accounts**

Month	No. of Days	Elem Lunch	Elem Breakfast	Middle Lunch	Middle Breakfast	Junior High Lunch	Junior High Breakfast	High Lunch
Aug/Sept	24	\$48.00	\$30.00	\$54.00	\$30.00	\$54.00	\$30.00	\$54.00
October	17	\$34.00	\$21.25	\$38.25	\$21.25	\$38.25	\$21.25	\$38.25
November	19	\$38.00	\$23.75	\$42.75	\$23.75	\$42.75	\$23.75	\$42.75
December	14	\$28.00	\$17.50	\$31.50	\$17.50	\$31.50	\$17.50	\$31.50
January	19	\$38.00	\$23.75	\$42.75	\$23.75	\$42.75	\$23.75	\$42.75
February	20	\$40.00	\$25.00	\$45.00	\$25.00	\$45.00	\$25.00	\$45.00
March	22	\$44.00	\$27.50	\$49.50	\$27.50	\$49.50	\$27.50	\$49.50
April	15	\$30.00	\$18.75	\$33.75	\$18.75	\$33.75	\$18.75	\$33.75
May	22	\$44.00	\$27.50	\$49.50	\$27.50	\$49.50	\$27.50	\$49.50
June	4	\$8.00	\$5.00	\$9.00	\$5.00	\$9.00	\$5.00	\$9.00
Total for Year	176	\$352.00	\$220.00	\$396.00	\$220.00	\$396.00	\$220.00	\$396.00

Additional Pricing for Extra Menu Items Purchased

Extra Entrée	\$1.50	\$1.25	\$1.75	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$2.00
Extra Milk	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50
Extra Side Dish	\$0.75	\$0.75	\$0.75	\$0.75	\$0.75	\$0.75

Due to the wide variety of meal and a la carte options it is suggested that parents review the choices with their students and discuss a daily spending limit for breakfast and lunch. The spending limit times the number of days per month can serve as the guideline for weekly or monthly pre-payments.

PLEASE REMEMBER NO CHARGING OF MEALS IS ALLOWED FOR MIDDLE, JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

Full Pay Lunch Prices	
Elementary	\$2.00
Middle	\$2.25
Junior High	\$2.25 and up
High	\$2.25 and up
Reduced Lunch Prices	
All Schools	\$0.40
Full Pay Breakfast Price	
Applicable Schools	\$1.25
Reduced Breakfast Price	
Applicable Schools	\$0.30

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEAL ACCOUNT AND GENERAL ACCOUNT

If money is placed in your student's **MEAL** account, then your student may only receive 1 lunch and 1 breakfast (where applicable) per day.

If money is placed in your student's **GENERAL** account, then your student may purchase any food items that are available.

WHAT MAKES UP A STUDENT LUNCH ?

A student lunch as defined by the National School Lunch Program, consists of a meat or meat alternate, bread, fruit, vegetable, and milk for a total of five items. A student may select all five items, however, they may choose at least 3 of the 5 items to be counted as a student lunch.

A student may not select two of the same items as one of their choices such as two orders of french fries.

An elementary, middle, or junior high student may purchase a la carte items for an additional charge only if he/she has purchased a student lunch first. Also, no extra items can be charged. A student must have money in their account or cash for a la carte items.

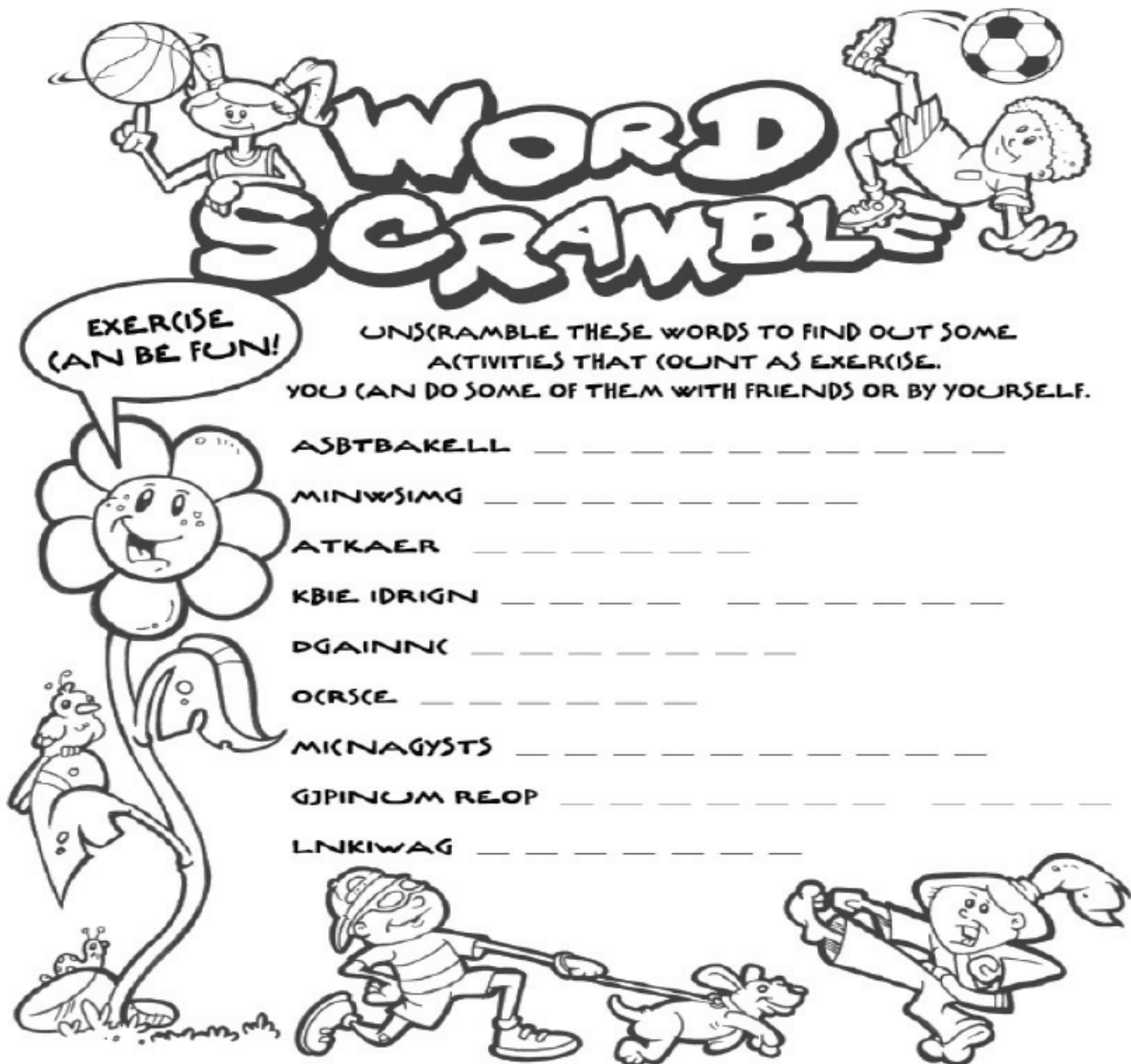
Milk is included in all student lunches. If we have a note from your child's physician about an allergy to dairy products, we can substitute a juice for their milk.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Breakfast can be purchased at the following schools: Diley, Harmon, Tollgate Middle, Fairfield, Heritage, Tussing, and Ridgeview. Breakfast consists of the following:

- 1 serving Bread and 1 serving Meat/Meat Alternate
OR
- 2 servings Bread or 2 servings Meat/Meat Alternate
- 1 serving Juice, or Fruit or Vegetable
- 1 serving Milk

All four components are offered daily, but the student may choose up to 3 of the 4 items. The cost of the breakfast is \$1.25 for full pay and \$.30 for reduced and is available to all students.



WORD SCRAMBLE

EXERCISE CAN BE FUN!

UNSCRAMBLE THESE WORDS TO FIND OUT SOME ACTIVITIES THAT COUNT AS EXERCISE. YOU CAN DO SOME OF THEM WITH FRIENDS OR BY YOURSELF.

ASBTBAKELL _____

MINWSIMG _____

ATKAER _____

KBIE IDRIGN _____

DGAINNC _____

OCSCE _____

MICNAGYSTS _____

GJPINUM REOP _____

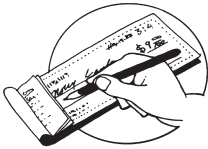
LNKIWAG _____

ATTENTION

During the last two weeks of school, our charge procedures change in order for us to close out for the year. Please be aware that if your elementary student has a negative balance, or less than \$2.00 they will only receive a fruit, vegetable and milk. No student will be allowed to receive a student lunch if they do not have enough money, either in their account or cash or check to pay for the meal. Please take time to check on your child's account balance through www.Mealpayplus.com or by calling 1-866-711-7341 to insure that your child receives their lunch. Grade cards may be held for any students with negative balances.



EASY WAYS TO PAY FOR MEALS!



Give cash or check payable to Pickerington School Food Service. Put student pin in memo section of check.



**FREE & REDUCED PRICE LUNCH APPLICATION
IS AVAILABLE AT EACH SCHOOL**

**ONLY ONE APPLICATION IS NEEDED PER FAMILY - NEW APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED EACH YEAR
FOSTER STUDENTS NEED THEIR OWN SEPARATE APPLICATION
CALL 1-866-711-7341 TO CHECK STATUS OF APPLICATION**

Pickerington Local Schools
Food Service Department
300 Opportunity Way
Pickerington, OH 43147

LUNCH INFORMATION



FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!