

School District of Upper Moreland Township

Food Service Updates for the 2016-17 School Year

Dear Parents/Guardians of Upper Moreland Township School District,

This letter is packed with important information about your child's school meal program, online payments and meal benefit applications. Please keep this letter as a reference. Upper Moreland Township School District utilizes a computerized payment system for all school meals purchased in the District cafés. We strive to provide your child and our staff with nutritious and healthy meal choices daily. **The elementary school lunch price is \$2.35 and breakfast is \$1.15 (Middle School-Lunch \$2.60, Breakfast \$1.15; High School- Lunch \$3.15, Breakfast \$1.25).**

***Benefits to using a computerized payment system.** Lunch lines move faster when meals are prepaid, providing students extra time to enjoy their lunch period. Prepayments are convenient and allow for better security. Once the transaction has been completed, your child will know his/her account balance. When accounts are prepaid, you can be sure that your child is only using that money for nutritious lunches, breakfast and snacks served in our café.

***HOW to add money to your child's account.** Funds can be added by check, cash or online.

1. Please put cash or check in an envelope with student ID number and child's name on front of envelope **AND** on the check. Please make all checks payable to Upper Moreland Food Services.

2. Upper Moreland School District uses an online website for credit card payments. Deposit pre-pay funds using your credit card in the amount of \$10.00 and over. Visit www.schoolcafe.com to set up a free account and add money to your child's lunch account. Use this link to check a child's balance, make an online prepayment and/or see what your student has been purchasing. Online prepayments are accepted anytime and could take up to 24 hours to post to your child's account. Check out schoolcafe.com for more details. **All online prepayments charge a 5% service charge.**

***WHEN to add funds to your child's account during the summer.** We would once again like to extend the opportunity to accept prepayments to your child(ren)'s account prior to the first day of school. Beginning **August 1st**, check, cash and online payments will be accepted in person, online or by mailing to the Upper Moreland School District Administration Building located at 2900 Terwood Road, Willow Grove, PA 19090. We hope you take advantage of our low prices in our cafés as we have strict charging policies with our student accounts. For more information please visit our website.

***WHEN to add funds to your child's account during the school year.** Children are asked to give their prepay money to their teacher to place in the morning classroom envelope or they can hand their envelope directly to the cafeteria. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THE ENVELOPE CONTAINING PAYMENT IS MARKED WITH STUDENT'S FULL NAME AND ID NUMBER!** We suggest parents send in checks rather than cash. To request a copy of your child's account please sign up at www.schoolcafe.com or contact Samantha Balcerak (sbalcerak@umtsd.org / 215-830-1520).

***HOW to apply for a meal benefit.** Each school year a new application must be submitted. Applications for the **2016-17** school year will start to be accepted on **July 15, 2016**. You can now apply online! Please visit www.paschoolmeals.com. Online is the fastest way to apply for free/reduced priced school meals, your application will be processed within 24 hours. Applications will also be available to be picked up at the Administration building or in school offices throughout the school year.

***BREAKFAST at school.** Enjoy breakfast at school each morning at the café! Select an Upper Moreland Breakfast which includes several entrée choices, juice, fruit and milk. For those who are participating in Before Care at the PS and IS, tuition includes breakfast daily at Café Cubby! Breakfast on the Run is available to all other students for \$1.15 (PS/IS/MS) and \$1.25 (HS). Start your day off right, grab breakfast at school!

***What is a meal?** A school breakfast consists of 4 food items. Included in the price of the meal is: milk, fruit, 100% fruit juice and a breakfast entrée (breakfast sandwich, French toast, pancakes, toast, yogurt, cereal). A school lunch consists of 5 food items. Included in the price of the meal is: milk, entrée, grain, fruits and vegetables. All students **MUST** take a serving of fruits and vegetables daily at breakfast (1/2cup) and lunch (3/4cup)! Menus are posted at www.umtsd.org.

***SNACK wisely at school.** A limited variety of a la carte items are available daily: fresh baked whole grain cookies, low/fat free milk, bottled water, string cheese, reduced-fat single serve bag snacks, low-fat ice cream, whole grain soft pretzels, fresh fruit and vegetables. Prices range from \$0.45-\$1.50. If you would like to restrict any items on your student account please contact Samantha Balcerak (sbalcerak@umtsd.org).

***CELEBRATE your child's birthday at school** (Primary and Intermediate schools). Please call Brenda Bossard at 215-325-1715 at least 1 week before the party at school!

***Elementary Center Cubby Garden.** Each year the Elementary Center classes grow fruits, vegetables and flowers in their classrooms and then transplant them in our Cubby Garden! The produce grown in the garden is then used in the cafeteria as fresh side dishes and free samples to all students. When available, the produce from the garden is also used at the other schools in the district on salad bars and side dishes! Upper Moreland Food Service is always accepting volunteers to help in the Cubby Garden. If interested in our growing project, please contact Melissa Harding, MHarding@umtsd.org for more information!

Please discuss with your child in advance about how they plan to spend their money. Information on your child's account may be updated at any time by you, but it must be in writing. For more information about school meals, our garden program, meal benefits and more please visit our food services page on www.umtsd.org or contact the food service office at 215-830-1520 or 215-830-1522.

UM School Nutrition...Serving our future, one meal at a time!