

Dear Mead School District Families:

The Mead School District Nutrition Services welcomes you to the 2022-23 school year. This important newsletter includes beneficial information for <u>all families</u> in our district. Please read through the following sections for information pertaining to your family.

MEAL PRICES for 2022-2023 school year.

	Breakfast	Lunch	Reduced Breakfast	Reduced Price Lunch	Milk purchased without meal
Elementary	1.85	2.95	0.00	0.00	.65
Middle/High	2.00	3.50	0.00	0.00	.65
Adults	3.00	5.00			.65

MEAL PAYMENTS

PAYING FOR STUDENT MEALS: The Meal Magic cash register program is a debit system. Students will need to deposit money prior to using the account. Mead School District highly encourages the use of this simple and convenient way for you to deposit money on your child's meal account using a credit or debit card that is **service fee free**. Use the Mead School District Online Payment link <u>https://wa-mead.intouchreceipting.com/</u> and the deposit will be credited to your child's meal account within 4-6 hours. **Meal account balances are listed on this site.** Payments may also be made at the school office. Please place check or cash in an envelope labeled with student name and send to the building office.

MEAL TIME

We are pleased to provide breakfast and lunch for your children that meet federal standards and include produce from our Farm to School program. Breakfast is an important part of being ready to learn. We offer breakfast prior to school starting. Please check your school's schedule for specific times.

Elementary students will need to be able to say their first AND last name loud and clear for the cashier or have their ID badge. Please have them practice this important skill to keep the meal lines moving quickly. **Middle/High school students** must have their ID badge or know their student ID#. This is their 5 digit number located in PowerSchool and on their class schedule. This is imperative to keep lines moving quickly so students have plenty of time to eat.

MEAL CHARGING

Please see attached procedure.

"MY SCHOOL MENU" APP and Health-e Living Website

Check out this app. for an exciting way to view menus, nutritional information, screen menus for allergens and translate menus into different languages. Available as an app for smartphones, tablets or bookmark on your pc. Keep up-to-date by visiting our website at https://mead.healtheliving.net/

FREE & REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS

A new application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals must be filled out every year. Translated applications are available at: <u>Translated Meal Applications</u>. **A quick and easy option is to apply online at** <u>https://mead.familyportal.cloud/</u>. If you need internet access, our office has a computer station available for parents/guardians at 12509 N Market St. Bldg. E, Mead, WA 99021. Paper applications are available at school offices, district office or the Nutrition Services website and office. Return paper applications to our office at the above address. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household status changes. The enclosed Letter to Households (Public Schools) has more information on free or reduced price meals as well as other benefits. After you apply you will receive an email with an attached approval/denial letter.

DIRECT CERTIFICATION:

If your child/children have been directly certified for free/reduced meals by the state of Washington, you will have already received notification prior to this letter. If you have received notification that your child/children qualified for free/reduced meals, you will not have to fill out an application for that child. IMPORTANT: If you did not receive notification for other students in the household, please call Nutrition Services at 509-465-6100.

Students who receive *FREE* or *REDUCED-PRICE* meal benefits must be aware that this allows for **one full breakfast** <u>and</u> **one full lunch per school day**. These benefits do not include separate ala carte purchases.

REDUCED OR WAIVED FEES

In order to receive reduced or waived fees you must give written permission to share the fact your student receives free or reduced meal benefits. Please retain your benefit notification letter from Mead Nutrition Services and give a copy to your child's school if you wish to receive reduced or waived fees. You may also fill out the attached waiver form and send to our office.

DISTRICT NUTRITION & PHYSICAL EDUCATION POLICY & PROCEDURE 6700

Please read for information on district policies on Nutrition & PE. Please check with your school as they may have additional practices in place. <u>Procedure 6700</u> and <u>Policy 6700</u>. More information on Healthy Celebrations can be found on our website <u>https://mead.healtheliving.net/</u>

SPECIAL DIETARY ACCOMMODATIONS

USDA Child Nutrition Programs support access to healthy meals to all children, including children with disabilities who have special dietary needs. Under the law, a disability is an impairment which substantially limits a major life activity, which can include allergies and digestive conditions, but does not include personal diet preferences. To provide accommodations we must have specific information from a recognized medical authority. Please return this completed & signed form <u>Special Dietary Accommodations</u> to your school's nurse.

Students with life-threatening conditions must have physician orders and a health care plan before attending school. Click <u>here</u> to access Health Care Plans.

COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION SCHOOLS (CEP)

If your child attends **Creekside**, **Evergreen**, **Farwell or Shiloh Hills Elementary** school we are excited to announce breakfast and lunch is FREE for all students. These 4 schools have qualified for CEP under the new state law HB 1878.

What this means for you:

- If your child attends one of these schools you do not fill out a meal application for meal benefits, unless you also have children attending another school within the district.
- We do need all households that have not received notification of free meal benefits through the state directly certified process to fill out a Household Information Report. This is available on the same website as our meal applications. <u>https://mead.familyportal.cloud/</u>
- Why? The Household Information Report is critical in determining the amount of money the school receives from a variety of State and Federal programs.
- You may qualify for reduced or waived fees, such as chrome book insurance.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Nutrition Services at 509-465-6100.

We hope this information is beneficial to you in beginning this new school year. We encourage you to take time to review our webpage https://mead.healtheliving.net/ for new information throughout the year!

Sincerely,

Nutrition Services

"In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720- 2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442;

or email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider."