

White Pine Charter School Cafeteria Program

To: Parents/Guardians
From: School Food Service Dept.
Date: 12/15/2017
Re: New computerized payment system for the Cafeteria

White Pine Charter School has recently adopted a new computerized Point of Sale payment system for all school meals purchased in the district's cafeterias. The first day of service for this new system will be January 18th 2018. I would like to take the time to introduce this system to all parents and to describe the upcoming services that will be provided. The first few days the lunch lines may be slower, but as the students familiarize themselves with the system, the lines should move much quicker than before. Breakfast will be included on the same system.

Every student will have their own personal meal account based on their current student ID number. We are assuming that all students know their student ID number used for academic eligibility, but if they forget, we can access it through every register. It is strongly recommended that all students remember their numbers, as this will make the meal lines move faster.

We encourage parents to deposit money into the student's account, although they may still pay cash. Monies paid into a student account can only be used for the purchase of regular and alternative meals. This way, parents are assured that their money is being used to purchase only lunch or breakfast items. When sending in money by check or cash, please include the student's ID number on the check or envelope so it is deposited into the correct account. This system allows students to charge only if there is money in their account – we won't allow any negative balances to occur.

If your student has qualified for **free or reduced** price lunches or breakfasts, this information is securely contained within the system and the meal will be processed just as it is for all other students. There is no need to be concerned for a potentially uncomfortable situation for the student.

If you are concerned about a food allergy that your student has, please notify the cafeteria with this information. A warning will appear on the cashier's screen for a quick review of the items on the student's meal tray.

Thank you in advance for your patience in implementing this system.

We are getting an online payment system called myschoolbucks.com It should be up and running around Jan 22,2018. This will allow you to set up a account and pay with debit and credit cards. We will notify you with a link and information to set up a account as soon as it becomes available.

FEATURES OF THE COMPUTERIZED SYSTEM

Benefits for Parents and Students

- When the account is prepaid you can be sure that your student is only using that money for nutritious lunches/breakfasts served in our cafeteria.
- Lunch is defined as a choice of entrée, milk choice, and up to four side dishes available to all students.
- Prepaid accounts for all students allows parents to deposit money in their student's account, in any amount, at any time, without concerns about giving their student the exact change every morning.
- For those students receiving free or reduced meals, their meals will be rung up as all the other meals are. No one will know whether they are receiving a free or reduced meal or debiting their account, except for the cashier.
- Lunch lines move faster when meals are prepaid, thus providing students extra time to enjoy their lunch period.
- Parents can pay any amount at any time. Students can prepay in the office with cash or parents can send in checks (with the student ID# on it), and students can give this to the office in the morning. You are only charged for the lunches/breakfasts that are debited to your student's ID academic eligibility number. All student ID numbers are confidential.
- Pin pads are located at every terminal; they provide ease of use and allow for quick transactions. (We do not have pin pads at the moment)
- Prepayment allows for better security rather than cash.
- Once the transaction has been completed, your student will know his/her account balance.
- Students may use any register. When a lunch or breakfast is recorded at one register, it will automatically be recorded on the other registers. (WPCS will only have one register)

PREPAYMENT OPTIONS

- You can send in prepayment monies at any time. We recommend that parents send in checks rather than cash. All monies should be submitted to the front office.
- Regular lunches cost \$3.10. Breakfast costs \$1.60. Reduced breakfasts and lunches cost \$.40 each.
- Checks are to be made payable to **White Pine Charter School or WPCS**. When sending a prepayment, please include the student's ID# on the face of the check. If you send in cash please indicate on the face of the envelope, the student's ID#.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the office of Cafeteria Services at 208-522-4432 Lori Orme

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