

New Point-Of-Sale System Being Used In School Cafeteria Improved Prepayment Program

Dear Parents:

We have installed a computerized system that will allow us to accomplish several important things that are of benefit to you and the students. Time in line at lunch should be reduced, giving your children time to eat at a slower pace. All purchases will be logged so you can inquire about the foods your children have purchased.

Debit Accounts for Students!

The best part of this new system is that each student now has an “account” with us. This is a debit account (not a credit account). This means that money is deposited into the account and then the student can purchase food items using that account. Each student has a unique Personal Identification Number (PIN). At mealtime, the student enters the number on a PIN Pad and the computer accesses his/her account. If there is money in the account, the purchases are deducted. If the student is eligible for the free/reduced meal program, the computer recognizes the status and automatically charges the reduced amount. If there is no money in the account and the student is not eligible for free meals, the cashier will collect the money owed, just as we have always done.

What Are the Benefits?

- n There is a record of food items purchased. Only food items can be purchased and cash cannot be taken out of an account.
- n Payments can be made weekly, monthly or yearly. This eliminates the need to worry about lunch money on a daily basis.
- n Students enjoy having their own PINs. It allows them to assume responsibility early in life. They’ll also learn how to budget their money.
- n There is no distinction between students who pay the full amount and students eligible for free and reduced lunches.
- n Since less cash is handled, cashier lines will move more quickly.