

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



1. On-Line Prepayments

Your school cafeteria is using www.mylunchmoney.com, to allow prepayments for your child's school breakfast, lunch and a la carte food items using Visa or Master Card. There is a small fee of only \$1.95 per transaction. Pay for all of your children at one school for one low fee. Go to www.mylunchmoney.com and click on ENROLL NOW or call 1-800-479-3531 to enroll by phone. To create an account for yourself and your children you will need their date of birth, school, grade, and student ID#. Enjoy the easy convenient and secure service for prepayments. Your personal and payment card information is protected by the most advanced Internet security.

2. Notification of low or negative balances

Your school cafeteria is using a service, *School Messenger*, to call you at home when your child's account has a low or negative balance. Consider using the automatic pre-payment option at www.mylunchmoney.com to always have money in your child's account.

3. Check Recovery Service-PayTek

Your school cafeteria is using an electronic check recovery service for returned checks. We welcome your checks and request that you have the following information on the checks:

- ✓ complete address
- ✓ telephone number
- ✓ driver's license number
- ✓ name of student and ID#

Returned checks not recovered by PayTek will be turned over to the District Attorney's office. Consider using the automatic pre-payment option in our credit card pre-payment services, www.mylunchmoney.com.

Food and Nutrition Services Department
6531 Boeing Drive
El Paso, Texas 79925
Phone: (915) 887-6500
Fax: (915) 771-1112

School meals are planned by Registered Dietitians to reflect the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and student preferences as determined by student taste tests and suggestions from parents and school staff. Food specifications and food preparation methods assist in meeting these guidelines.

A 5 Star Lunch Includes:

- ☆ Entrée
- ☆ Bread
- ☆ Vegetable or Fruit } (Choose 2 different ones)
- ☆ Vegetable or Fruit }

Milk - 2 flavors of 1% and skim milk

At least 3 STARS must be selected for lunch!

OUR DESIRE IS TO FUEL YOUR CHILD'S MIND AND BODY WITH DELICIOUS AND NUTRITIOUS MEALS SO THEY CAN FOCUS ON READING, WRITING AND ARITHMETIC. HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

Please contact your school cafeteria manager if you have questions regarding our policies. "In accordance with Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, Write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

WELCOME STUDENTS!

Meal Prices

Student Meals are reasonably priced.

<u>Elementary Breakfast</u>	\$1.20
<u>Elementary Lunch</u>	\$1.75
<u>Secondary Breakfast</u>	\$1.20
<u>Secondary Lunch</u>	\$1.85

PARENT INFORMATION

- The Food and Nutrition Services Department is pleased to provide your student with nutritious, economical meals.
- Adults are invited to join students for breakfast and lunch. Adult prices are economical too.
- Your school cafeteria plays a key role in educating students on healthy eating by providing nutrition education and kitchen tours.

Consider having your student eat breakfast at school!

- Many studies show that eating breakfast at school is associated with:

- ✓ Higher test scores
- ✓ Improved attendance
- ✓ Better class participation





MEAL CHARGES

The Food and Nutrition Services Department understands that in the morning rush your child may leave for school without his/her money for breakfast and lunch. The following policy is in place: **Elementary Schools:** Students without money will be allowed to charge up to 5.25. Once reaching a negative balance of 5.25, students will be given a cheese sandwich at lunch. Parents will receive notification via a phone call or written notice when their child reaches a low or negative balance and prompt payment is expected. If you feel there may be an error, please contact the school cafeteria manager or nutrition clerk. To check your child's balance or make a prepayment go to www.mylunchmoney.com

Secondary Schools: It is up to each school's administration whether students who do not have enough money for a meal will be allowed to charge their meals. Please check at your school.

ACCOUNT BALANCES CARRIED OVER FROM LAST YEAR

Any money remaining on your child's account last June go with your child to his/her new campus this year. Likewise, if your child owed money at the end of last school year, the negative balance is carried over and prompt repayment is appreciated. Refunds at the end of the school year must be requested prior to the last day of school.

FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEAL ELIGIBILITY EXPIRATION

If your child was on free or reduced price meal eligibility in June, it will carry over to the new school year as a TEMPORARY status. The TEMPORARY free/reduced status will expire after 30 school days or when a new application is processed.

Each family who is currently receiving free or reduced price meals will need to submit an application. If an application is not submitted within the first 30 days of school, the child's eligibility will be changed to full price. An application does not need to be completed if a Direct Certification letter has been sent for each student in your household.

Families with children entering EPISD for the FIRST time will need to submit an application as soon as possible even if siblings are already on free/reduced meals. The new student will be responsible for paying full price until an application has been processed.

Please allow 10 working days for processing. Please complete and return only **ONE** application **PER FAMILY**. It may be returned to any EPISD cafeteria or to the Food and Nutrition Services office at 6531 Boeing Drive. The Food and Nutrition Services Department will mail a letter notifying you of your child's eligibility status once your application has been processed. Please make sure you fill out the application completely in order to avoid delays in processing.



Menus

- Available at www.schoolmenu.com
- Available at www.episd.org.
Click on Departments and then click on Food and Nutrition Services.

Wellness Policy

"In compliance with federal law 108-265, Child Nutrition and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Reauthorization Act of 2004, El Paso Independent School District School Board established a wellness policy that promotes student health and contributes to the reduction of childhood obesity. The components of the wellness policy include nutrition education, physical education, nutrition guidelines for all food available during the school day, and other activities that promote wellness."

A LA CARTE SNACKS

A la carte snacks are available in many schools as a supplement to students' lunches. These items meet strict nutrient standards:

- No Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value (FMNV) or candy allowed anywhere on school premises until after the end of the last scheduled class.
- No FMNVs during meal times where reimbursable meals are served and/or consumed in High Schools.
- Refer to the Texas Public School Nutrition Policy at www.squaremeals.org for more information.

OFFER VERSUS SERVE

Your Eat Smart Café lets you make the choice! You can choose from a variety of healthy foods and have the privilege of refusing any pre-plated item.