

*We Expect Excellence!*



## Nutrition Services Department Information

Ripon Unified School District's Food and Nutrition Services Department provides students nutritious meals at reasonable prices to children during the school day to support their learning and development. The district participates in the National School Lunch Program providing meals that meet State and Federal regulations that are in line with the Dietary Guidelines for Healthy Americans.

We serve a variety of entrees at lunch along with a Garden Bar at the Elementary Schools. The Garden Bar includes seasonally fresh fruits and vegetables. All meals include the choice of low fat white or nonfat chocolate milk. A full price lunch cost \$3.00 at the Elementary Schools and \$3.25 at High School. Reduced price lunch for eligible students is 40 cents.

Breakfast is served at all school sites. The full price is \$1.50 at the Elementary Schools and \$1.75 at the High School. Reduced price breakfast is 30 cents.

### **Payment Options**

Meals must be prepaid for all students. Payment may be made either at the Elementary School or Harvest High office or Ripon High School MUB between 8:00am and 3:00pm or through the My Mealtime system.

Each Elementary School has a locked deposit box and preprinted envelopes are provided for lunch deposit payments. Payment can be made by cash or check. Receipts can be given upon request.

Meal payment can also be done on-line at [www.mymealtime.com](http://www.mymealtime.com). A student account can be set up using the student's permanent ID#. If you choose this option, there is a small fee associated with each deposit. Parents can also set up an account on the mealtime web site at no charge. This enables the parent to monitor their child's account and obtain a detailed history of the meals and food items purchased.

### **Meal Charge Policy**

Families play a key role in this effort and are responsible for purchases made by their child in our school cafeterias. Because we are a self-funded program and unpaid meal debt is not reimbursed by the State or Federal government, the following procedures have been established:

All students (TK-12) will be allowed to charge reimbursable breakfast and/ or lunch meals to their school lunch account. Charges will not be allowed for adult meals, non-student meals, second meals, a la carte purchases, and milk.

Letters Home: Letters will be sent to the household of student(s) who owe money on their meal account.

Phone calls: Phone calls will be made to the parent/ legal guardian of the student lunch accounts that have a negative balance at least twice a week by the school site cashier or automated message. Daily, automated, phone calls will be made to meal accounts that have a negative balance of \$20.00 or more.

Automated emails: Emails will be sent to the parent/ legal guardian of student meal accounts that have a negative balance every day after the first charge.

If a student has not paid for five or more previous meals, the school will:

- a) Determine whether the student is categorically eligible for free meals;
- b) If no application has been submitted for the student to determine his or her eligibility for free or reduced-price meals, make no fewer than two attempts to contact the student's parent or guardian to have him or her submit an application; and
- c) Have a principal, assistant principal, or school counselor contact the parent or guardian for the purpose of
  - i) Offering assistance with completing an application to determine the student's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals;
  - ii) Determining whether there are any household issues that may prevent the student from having sufficient funds for school meals; and
  - iii) Offering any other appropriate assistance.

### **Free and Reduced Meal Application**

Completed applications can be returned to any school office or the district office at the beginning of the school year. Allow 10 operating (school) days for household meal applications to be processed. During this time, you are responsible for payment of your child's meals unless you categorically qualify for benefits.

If your family was approved for meal benefits last year your benefits continue until **September 23, 2020**. Your TK/kindergartener is also approved for meal benefits until this date.

USDA and CDE are an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**Attention:**

Due to school closures, meals will be distributed at your student's enrolled school site in a "Grab and Go" fashion. Before driving through, please have your student's teacher and student's name ready when picking up the meals for the cashier—they will be the first staff member you check in with, in the Grab and Go line up.

You will have the option of purchasing a breakfast and or lunch for your student.

Drive through hours are from 7:15 am- 8:30am.