



EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

20420 68th Ave. W., Lynnwood, WA 98036-7400
425-431-7036 FAX 425-431-7198
<http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu>

Marla S. Miller
Assistant Superintendent

Includes Brier, Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, and Woodway

August 18, 2008

Dear families of Edmonds School District,

Eating a nutritious breakfast and lunch is very important for the health and academic success of every child, and we appreciate being a partner with so many families in providing that "fuel for learning" for your student. Did you know that each week the meals from your school cafeteria meet or exceed every FDA nutrition standard? We're very proud of the quality and cost efficiency of the school meal program in Edmonds School District, and we invite those of you who may be new to us to give us a try!

Did you also know that breakfasts and lunches from the school cafeteria are not funded or provided free as part of the regular school day? Meals must either be purchased at full cost by each student or paid for -- totally or in part -- by federal and state funds when a family qualifies for the Free or Reduced Price Meal program. Information regarding eligibility for Free or Reduced Price Meals is included with this letter, and we encourage everyone who is eligible to allow their child to receive the benefit of this important nutrition program by sending in the application.

Meal Prices are Increasing

Just as you are experiencing at home, our costs for food and fuel (as well as labor, for us) have increased significantly in the past year. As a result, we are increasing our prices for meals. The new prices are:

Elementary Breakfast:	Full cost: \$1.75 Free and Reduced: no charge to eligible families
Elementary Lunch:	Full cost: \$3.25 Reduced: free for grades K-3; 40 cents for preschool, grades 4 – 6 Free: no charge to eligible families
Middle/High School Breakfast:	Full cost: \$2.00 Reduced: no charge to eligible families Free: no charge to eligible families
Middle/High School Lunch:	Full cost: \$4.00 Reduced: 40 cents for grades 7 - 12 Free: no charge to eligible families
Milk/Juice:	50 cents

• OUR MISSION •

To ADVOCATE for all students by PROVIDING a learning environment which EMPOWERS students, staff and the community to MAXIMIZE their personal, creative and academic potential in order to BECOME lifelong learners and responsible world citizens.

If a family does not qualify for Free or Reduced Price Meals, there are several ways to pay for meals:

1. CASH paid to the cafeteria cashier or at the school office
2. MYLUNCHMONEY.COM – an Internet-based prepayment program using your debit or credit card (see www.edmonds.wednet.edu for more information)
3. CHECK payable to EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT paid to the cafeteria cashier or at the school office

IOU Policy is Changing

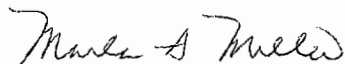
Beginning this fall, each student who comes through the cafeteria line will need to have paid for their food by one of the methods described above (Free/Reduced Price eligibility or payment). If a student comes through the cafeteria line without a way to pay for their food, they will be allowed to eat a full meal until such time as they reach a balance owing of \$10 (Ten Dollars). Any student who has an outstanding balance of \$10 or more will be given a muffin at breakfast and/or a cheese sandwich at lunch, in place of the regular cafeteria meal.

The Food Service department exists solely to provide nutritious “fuel for learning” for each student, and it is our goal to have every child eat breakfast and lunch every day. We tried being more lenient regarding IOUs and ended last year with an outstanding debt of over \$200,000 to the program. Since we still had to pay for food, fuel, and labor, the unpaid balance negatively impacts the school district’s overall General Fund.

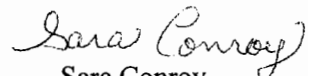
Given the tight economic times, we expect more families may need to at least temporarily access the Free or Reduced Price Meal program, and we sincerely hope that families will take advantage of this service to make sure no student goes hungry during the school day. It’s our passion to find a way for every student to have access to a nutritious breakfast and lunch, every day!

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call either of us. We look forward to being a partner with you in providing the “fuel for learning” your student needs to make the most of their school experience.

Sincerely,



Marla S. Miller
Assistant Superintendent
425.431.7036



Sara Conroy
Interim Director of Food Service
425.431.7076