

News from the Cafeteria

Mrs. Diane Nicholls

: **Computerized payment System for the Cafeteria**

Silver Lake Regional Middle School Cafeteria has a computerized Point of Sale payment system for all school meals purchased in the cafeteria. I would like to take the time to introduce this system to all parents and to make them familiar with this system.

Every student will have their own personal lunchroom account based on their current student ID number. Students can access their accounts on the PIN pads located at every register. 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 lunch 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 meals and ala carte items. This way, parents are assured that their money is being used in the cafeteria. 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 can't allow any negative balances to occur.

If your student has qualified for **free or reduced** price lunches, 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.

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 served in our cafeteria.(ala cart items may also be purchased)
- 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, and not have to be concerned with 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.
- Pin pads are located at every terminal; they provide ease of use and allow for quick transactions.
- 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 is recorded at one register, it will automatically be recorded on the other registers.
- When student accounts get low, students will be informed at the register of their balance.

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 home room teachers or cafeteria personnel.
- Regular lunches cost \$2.00 each. Reduced lunch cost .40 each.
- Checks are to be made payable to **Silver Lake Regional Middle School Cafeteria Account.**
- When sending prepayment, please include the student's name with ID# on face of the check or if you send in cash please indicate on the envelope student's name and ID #.
- Thank you.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the office of Cafeteria Services at 781-582-3555 ex: 3256