



**Dining Services Farmington Public Schools**  
**10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032**  
**(860) 673-6343**

We are excited about the new school year and our continued partnership with Chartwells School Dining Services. Chartwells has some great plans for our school meal programs. There is a team in place to continue to work with the existing staff to bring excitement and improved quality to the program.

Jose Fontanez Director of Dining Services

**School Breakfast Program:**

School breakfast is for everyone! Did you know that school breakfast is linked with better test scores, attendance, attention span, and improved problem solving skills in class? Farmington Public Schools proudly offers an amazing breakfast to students at Union Elementary School, West District Elementary School, and Farmington High School. Students can select from a variety of whole grain reduced sugar cereals, whole grain muffins and bagels, daily hot breakfast entrees such as Whole Grain Pancakes or Whole Grain French Toast, as well as a wide variety of fresh fruits or 100% fruit juice. Milk is included with every breakfast providing nine essential nutrients and protein. Catch breakfast every day in the cafeteria.

**School Breakfast Prices:**

Reduced price breakfast for selected schools: **\$0.30**

Elementary Schools: **\$1.90**

Farmington High School: **\$2.75**

We would like to remind parents of the incredible value of a school lunch. According to the School Nutrition Association, the estimated national average of a lunch brought from home is \$3.43! Every School Lunch includes five great choices: Lean Protein, Whole Grain Bread/Grains, Fruit Choice, Vegetable Choice and Low-Fat Milk Choice. Please encourage your child to take all five meal components when they purchase a school lunch.

**School Lunch Prices:**

Reduced price lunches at all schools: **\$0.40**

Elementary Schools: **\$2.80**

West Woods Upper Elementary: **\$3.05-\$3.55**

Irving A. Robbins Middle School: **\$3.05-\$3.55**

Farmington High School: **\$3.05-\$3.80**

**Menu:** Milk is included with all purchased meals. Additionally, there are 8 oz. cartons available a la carte at \$.60. You may see gradual changes with the menu, choices, and food presentation at all schools. We will be working with administrators, students, and parents to gain insight into how we can enhance our services. Please visit the Quick Links on the District website at <http://www.fpsct.org> for menus, updates, prepayment information, free and reduced lunch applications, links to nutrition information and to view your student's account. At the end of August, look for information about our Simply Good- Fresh and Local campaign which will highlight fresh, local fruits and vegetables on all menus. Our new Chefs to Schools program uses local chefs to prepare exciting new options for our students. We strive to make the dining experience special, so we are planning enhancements designed to appeal to each group of customers.

**Elementary Program**

For the elementary students, we will be following an adventure of fun and nutrition education with the help of the Eat, Learn, Live Characters - Theodore, Sydney, & Ava - watch for Theodore, Sydney & Ava and friends on menus and signs in cafeterias- they are our nutrition ambassadors!!!! Check menus for special "Characters

Giveaways" and nutrition information! You will also notice whole grain products, fresh fruits, and vegetables being offered daily.

### **Middle and High School Lunch Programs**

We understand that older students have a more sophisticated palate, so we are planning some appropriate enhancements to meet their needs. Some highlights:

- Our food stations at the High School Include “Crust & Stuff”, “Grab a Stack”, “Play Bowl”, “Outtakes” “Ready Set Deli.”
- Our food stations at the Middle School include “Sizzle”, “Taste”, ”Bake”, and “Crisp”
- See menus for details of daily specials
- More whole grain breads, rolls, fresh fruits, and vegetables.
- Made to order deli sandwiches & salads.
- Homemade "pizzeria style" round pizzas and calzones,” Asian Nation”, “Casa Amigos”, and “2.mato” are a few of our new concepts.

### **ADVANCE PAYMENTS FOR STUDENT LUNCH ACCOUNTS**

The Farmington Public Schools utilizes the Nutrikids system for its online payment service. The service also provides parents with the ability to view student account balances. To create an account or to add money to an account, go online to [www.MyNutrikids.com/login.aspx](http://www.MyNutrikids.com/login.aspx). You will need your student’s MyNutrikids number and school zip code.

- To obtain your child’s **MyNutrikids number**:
  - Grades K-6 please call the school or (860) 673-6343 and ask for assistance
  - Grades 7-12 log-in to your PowerSchool account and refer to the **MyNutrikids** number listed for your child.

### **Things to know:**

- If you have more than one child in the District you can handle all online prepayments from the same online account.
- Payments may be made through an existing mySchoolBucks.com account or with a major credit or debit card.
- In order to use the online prepayment service, a small convenience fee for each transaction will be assessed to cover the bank fees. The convenience fee is \$1.95 per deposit transaction. Parents placing money into multiple meal accounts will only be assessed the \$1.95 fee once per deposit transaction. Farmington Public Schools will not profit from the use of this site. (You may continue to send cash or a check to the school to avoid this transaction fee).
- **If you wish to set restrictions and/or spending limits on your child’s lunch account you will need to contact Dining Services. Any prior restrictions, such as prepaid lunches ONLY, will need to be confirmed with this office as well.**

Restrictions may include:

- Limit purchases to meals ONLY (no a la carte spending)
- Set a limit on a la carte spending per day (**NOT** including the cost of a lunch)

### **Food Services Charge Policy**

Dining Services allows students to charge lunch when lunch money is lost, forgotten or inadvertently overlooked. Please be aware that we rely heavily on all revenue due for our services. In order to sustain the lunch program and to continue serving nutritious meals, we ask that this convenience be exercised as infrequently as possible and not used as a payment practice.

Students are allowed to charge one meal per day and up to three meals in total in elementary schools and two meals for middle and high school. Upon reaching the limit, students will be offered a cheese sandwich with milk and fresh fruit as a meal choice. Notification of charge balances are sent home with students as account balances approach the maximum limit. We recommend that parents monitor the balance in the child's lunch to avoid menu limitations.

### **The National School Lunch Program**

The Farmington Public Schools participates in the National School Lunch Program. School lunch is available at free and reduced prices. Eligibility for this program is determined through an application process. A copy of this application is included on page 40 of this document. If you presently receive SNAP or Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) for your child, that child is eligible for a free meal.

If your total income is at or below the USDA free and reduced income limits, your child is eligible for free meals or a reduced price meal of \$.40 per day. These guidelines can be found on the USDA website [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov). If you have a foster child, that child may be eligible for benefits regardless of your income because the child is a legal ward of the State of Connecticut and is considered a household of one. Subsidized adoptions, however, require an application to be submitted with the calculation of all household income plus the adoption subsidy.

### **HOW TO APPLY:**

To receive free or reduced price meals for your child, carefully complete the Child Nutrition application found on page 40 of the school district information document (also found on the [www.fpsct.org](http://www.fpsct.org) website in the "Quicklinks" link) and return it to the school your child attends. If you now get SNAP or TFA benefits for your child, the application must have the child's name, your SNAP or TFA case number, and the signature of an adult household member. If you do not receive SNAP or have a TFA case number, an application must be submitted. The application must include the following information: names of every member of the household, the amount of income each household member now receives, the source of this income and how often it is received, the signature of an adult household member and the adult's social security number. If the adult in the household does not have a social security number, place a check mark in the space provided. **NOTE:** An application that does not contain ALL this information will not be approved (see PRIVACY ACT on the reverse side of the application).

Student who were approved for free/reduced lunches for the 2016-2017 school year will continue to receive free/reduced lunches until the date of **October 12, 2017** only, thirty (30) school days after the start of the new school year. If a new application is not submitted, processed and approved by **October 12, 2017** the student will be charged full price for meals.

**VERIFICATION:** School officials may check your eligibility at any time during the school year. You may be asked to send information to prove that your child should get free or reduced price meals.

**FAIR HEARING:** If you do not agree with the school's decision on your application or the results of verification, you may discuss it with the school. You also have a right to a fair hearing. You can do this by calling or writing the following official: Beth Gingrave, Finance Manager, at 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032 or phone (860) 673-8270.

**REPORTING CHANGES:** If your child gets meals based on income information, you must tell the school if your household size decreases or if your income increases by more than \$50 per month or \$600 per year. If your child gets meals based on TFA/Food Stamp information, you must advise the school if you no longer get TFA or Food Stamps for your child. You may then complete another application revising your income information.

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** The information you give on the application will be used only to allow your child to

get free or reduced price meals and to verify eligibility. We may inform officials connected with Title I and the National Assessment of Educational Progress whether your child is eligible for free or reduced price school meals.

**REAPPLICATION:** You may apply for free or reduced price meals at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now but have a change, such as a decrease in household income, an increase in household size, become unemployed or get Food Stamps or TFA for your child, fill out an application then.

In the operation of child feed programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, religion or handicap. If you believe you have been discriminated against, write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

You will be notified when the application is approved or denied.