

The Child Nutrition Department (Food Service)



Students at Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools may purchase a well-balanced, nutritious meal each day made by the district's Food Service Staff based on USDA requirements.

Students purchasing a **plate lunch** may choose 3-5 components – protein, whole grains, milk, and must include a fruit or vegetable.



- protein (meat/meat alternate)
- whole grain rich items
- vegetables
- fruits
- ½ pint of milk

A variety of **vegetables** from each vegetable sub-group are offered weekly including:

Dark Green	Red/Orange	Beans/Legumes	Starchy	Other Veggies
Broccoli	Carrots	Kidney Beans	Corn	Celery
Romaine	Sweet Potatoes	Hummus	Potatoes	Green Beans
Spinach	Tomatoes	Black Beans	Peas	Cucumbers

Breakfast includes 3-4 components including whole grain-rich items, fruit, and milk. Breakfast is available at Chapelfield, Goshen Lane, Jefferson, Lincoln, Royal Manor, Middle Schools South & West, and Lincoln High School.

Plate lunch and breakfast menus are available online at www.gahannaschools.org. Elementary plate lunches cost \$2.75 (reduced .40); \$3.00 at middle and high school; breakfast is \$1.50 (reduced .30).

Students use their 6-digit student identification number as their PIN on the café POS system. Parents are encouraged to prepay for meals through My Payments Plus online, by cash (not encouraged), or checks. **The charge limit is 4 meals.**

Families may apply for **free or reduced-price meals** any time during the school year. Applications are available in each school, and the administration office, and may be submitted online at <http://fnr.gjps.org>. Students on the **free and reduced-price meals** program are eligible for a plate lunch (and plate breakfast where offered) daily. The cafeteria POS system provides complete confidentiality.

At no cost, My Payments Plus at www.MyPaymentsPlus.com allows families to:

- Check each child's current account balance online
- Create settings to **receive email notifications** when their account reaches a low balance
- For a small program fee you can make a prepayment into your child's meal account using a credit or debit card and create settings to automatically replenish the account. Online deposits of \$50 or more will earn a **bonus** (to offset the program fee of .0475%).



Child Nutrition Department 614-478-5531
Linda Green
Beverly Fansler

Procedure for Meal Charges

It is the responsibility of parents to provide lunch for their children while at school. It is important that children receive the nutrition they need to stay focused and learn during the school day. The Gahanna-Jefferson Child Nutrition Department's goal is to provide healthy meals to students and support its self-funded account.

Unpaid meal charges place a financial strain on the Child Nutrition Department. While we intend to feed all students needing lunch, and treat the students with respect regarding charging of meals, it remains the parents' responsibility to provide payment or pack lunches.

CHARGE LIMIT = 4 MEALS

Parents and students:

- Parents may apply for Free/Reduced-Price School Meals online at fnr.gjps.org at any time during the school year as they are processed daily. Hard copy meal applications may be submitted at the school or via email at GREENL@GJPS.ORG
- Parents may prepay for meals by check made payable to the school cafeteria, with cash or online by credit/check card at www.mypaymentsplus.com. Parents will need their student's ID number to register for a free account. Student account balances, purchase history, online payments may be viewed, as well setting up notifications for low balances and auto pay features.
- Parents may call the Child Nutrition office at **614-478-5531** for student account balances. Parents may also limit purchases, ex. "Plate Lunch only" by calling Beverly Fansler or submit the School Meals Special Diet and Restrictions Form.
- Students may inquire about their balance with the cashier. Cashiers also remind the students "to tell someone at home that you need lunch money".

Child Nutrition Department:

- The Child Nutrition office notifies parents at least twice weekly of their child(ren)'s negative balance via email and will repeat until the lunch debt is paid (please check your SPAM folder).
- In the event a student has reached his/her charge limit, has no packed lunch, and no funds in hand, a ONE time Emergency Meal (Plate Lunch or Breakfast) funded by the "Fill My Tummy Fund" donations will be provided. The Child Nutrition office will email the parent to inform them that their student's account is in crisis.
- After an Emergency Meal has been provided and no funds are available, and the student has no packed lunch, an alternative meal will be offered. An alternative meal is a cheese sandwich and a fruit or vegetable of the day during lunch, and a fruit/grain bar for breakfast.
- Charging of snacks, beverages, or second entrees are never allowed. These a la carte purchases must be paid with cash or with funds in the student's account.

Please note: During the last 2 weeks of school students may not charge meals. They must have cash, check, or funds on their account to purchase breakfast or lunch. Remaining balances will transfer to the next school year.

Questions? Contact Linda Green, Child Nutrition Supervisor, at 614-478-5535 or GREENL@GPS.ORG