GUIDE TO
CHILD NUTRITION

2022-2023
SCHOOL YEAR

Your Personal Information Packet for Child Nutrition
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On behalf of Fort Worth ISD Nutrition Services, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our staff and students to the 2022 – 2023 school year! We hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready and excited to be back in school. We, as Aramark Student Nutrition, are pleased to be your school district’s food service provider.

As we reopen for the new school year, Aramark Student Nutrition is Powering Potential for students and faculty with innovations in our menus and enhancements to our overall dining operations. When your students and staff dine with us, rest assured that we will be serving delicious, nutritious meals prepared with the utmost attention to safety. We encourage every student to fuel up with breakfast and lunch meals each day so they can be energized and prepared to succeed throughout the day, in and out of the classroom. Check out our daily menus on MealViewer https://www.fwisd.org/Page/26663.

One thing that you can do to help this important cause is to encourage your students to eat with us. The demands of the classroom can be difficult for children who are hungry, and studies indicate students who eat breakfast can concentrate better, earn higher grades, and have fewer illnesses*. We do offer various breakfast programs – either in the cafeteria or in the classroom – to ensure students can start the school day right!

(*Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). “Breakfast for Learning.” Spring 2014.)

We look forward to working for you to create a healthy learning environment for all students.

If you’d like more information, please call our office 817.814.3500, or check the website www.https://www.fwisd.org/Domain/162 for the latest news and updates.

Sincerely,
Jeanna Ratnayake
VP Operations
2022-2023

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

OUR TEAM

Jeanna Ratnayake
VP Operations
817.814.3510

CAMPUS OPERATIONS
Kyle Suerth
Resident District Manager
817.814.3518

Angela Lowe
Assistant Director
817.814.3512

Cynthia Jones
Director of Compliance and Training
817.814.3513

Brent Loving
Executive Chef
817.814.3573

Darlene Lopez Monge
Registered Dietitian
817.814.3520

Erika Kurtz
Registered Dietitian
817.814.3516

Laurie Esposito
Community Relations Manger
817.814.3539

Katelyn Whittenburg
Marketing Manager
817.814.3519

Campus Supervisors
See Page 5

HUMAN RESOURCES
Jay Warren
Sr. Human Resources Manager
817.814.3536

Sonia Borrayo
Admin Assoc.
817.814.3571

Genaro Coronado
Admin Assoc
817.814.3500

Mary Helen Zavala
Payroll Clerk
817.814.3506

Rosie Lira
Admin Assoc
817.814.3544

LUNCH CARD OFFICE
Charlotte Torres
Specialist
817.814.3541

Janis Grays
Admin Assoc
817.814.3547

Jesus Martinez
Admin Assoc
817.814.3505

Ibbie Mays
Admin Assoc
817.814.3545

BUSINESS SERVICES
Thomas Sullivan
Unit Controller
817.814.3515

Sylvia Mendoza
Sr. Accountant
817.814.3517

Gloria Souder
Inventory Specialist
817.814.3503

Joann Tristan
Admin Assoc
817.814.3509

Karmesse Sewa
Admin Assoc
817.814.3507

Israel Rodríguez González
IT Specialist IV | Application Development | CNS

WAREHOUSE
Barry Cranford
Foreman
817.814.3563

Etienne Rieder
Asst Foreman
817.814.3564

Rolando Martinez
Warehouse Specialist
817.814.3561

MAIN OFFICE
601 East Northside Dr.
Fort Worth, TX 76164
Main Office | 817.814.3500
Main Fax | 817.814.3550
https://www.fwisd.org/Domain/162
## 2022-2023

### DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

#### OUR TEAM

### Area Supervisors

#### EASTSIDE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EASTSIDE</td>
<td>Crystal Cole</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Crystal.cole@fwisd.org">Crystal.cole@fwisd.org</a></td>
<td>43531</td>
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<td></td>
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#### SOUTHWEST

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<tr>
<td>SOUTHWEST</td>
<td>Stephanie Southall</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Stephanie.Southall@fwisd.org">Stephanie.Southall@fwisd.org</a></td>
<td>43529</td>
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#### WEST CENTRAL

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<tr>
<td>WEST CENTRAL</td>
<td>Michael Hernandez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michaelhernandez@fwisd.org">michaelhernandez@fwisd.org</a></td>
<td>43528</td>
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<tr>
<td>WESTSIDE</td>
<td>Erick Acevedo Rosario</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Erick.AcevedoRosario@fwisd.org">Erick.AcevedoRosario@fwisd.org</a></td>
<td>43526</td>
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#### NORTHEAST

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<tr>
<td>NORTHEAST</td>
<td>Kathy Henson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kathy.Henson@fwisd.org">Kathy.Henson@fwisd.org</a></td>
<td>43530</td>
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### Area Code Listings

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<td>EASTSIDE</td>
<td>006 019 048 052 070 105 125 126 129 141 162 188 206 219</td>
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* Denotes Temporary assignment
## Area Supervisors

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<tr>
<th>NORTHEAST</th>
<th>Terry Melaun</th>
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THE PURPOSE OF THIS HANDBOOK

The purpose of this handbook is to provide information regarding the Fort Worth Independent School District’s Child Nutrition Services programs and the policies and regulations regarding the Child Nutrition Services Department.

The Child Nutrition Services Department operates under the governance of the Texas Department of Agriculture. A complete Administrator’s Reference Manual outlining all Child Nutrition Services policies and procedures is available at www.squaremeals.org. Additional operational information is also available on the Fort Worth ISD Web site (www.fwisd.org). All forms listed in this handbook can be located on the Fort Worth ISD Web site (www.fwisd.org) or via District Intranet.

District Mission

The mission of the Fort Worth ISD is to provide and support rigorous learning opportunities that result in successful completion of a high-quality school experience for all students.

Child Nutrition Services Department Mission

The mission of the Child Nutrition Services program is to support the District’s educational mission by ensuring that students who use program services are well-nourished. To accomplish this, we meet or exceed dietary guidelines, provide choices for students, promote nutrition education and offer appealing meals to our customers – the students of Fort Worth ISD.

Civil Rights Statement

The U.S Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
The Fort Worth ISD’s Child Nutrition Services Department participates in the National School Breakfast, Lunch and After-School Snack Programs. These child nutrition programs are a means of providing nutritious meals to children. The programs contribute to a better understanding of good nutrition and better eating habits for all students. Research has proven that students who are well nourished perform better in school.

Meals served to students are the only meals eligible for reimbursement from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA does not provide reimbursement or commodities for adult meals. Therefore, the Fort Worth ISD offers meals for sale to District employees at a low cost and strongly encourages adult support through convenient meal options.

The Fort Worth ISD Child Nutrition Services Department is self-supporting, with its source of income from student and adult paid meals, a la carte and catering sales, USDA reimbursement, and government commodities.

From its income, the Child Nutrition Services Department funds:

Salaries and benefits of its employees
Equipment replacement as needed
All food and supplies to operate campus kitchens
Maintenance and upkeep of kitchens
Equipment for new innovations
Utility costs

Non-allowable use of school food service funds includes:

Any expenditures not directly related to the food service operation, although they may be part of the District’s general fund
Salaries for non-school food service functions/employees
Salaries for cafeteria monitors
Subsidizing any non-student function not relating to meal service
Bad debt
CAMPUS-LEVEL TEAMWORK AND COMMUNICATIONS

Teamwork and communication are essential for cafeteria staff to support the educational process effectively at the campus level.

To strengthen communications, the Child Nutrition Services Department has implemented several strategies including the creation of this handbook. In addition, school principals were asked for ideas to improve teamwork and communication between the school cafeteria and the school administration. Based on their feedback, the most frequently expressed ideas and practices were to:

• Invite the cafeteria staff to any breakfasts, lunches, etc. provided to other staff.
• Provide the cafeteria manager with access to make additions to the morning announcements, calendars, etc.
• Provide the cafeteria staff with any goodies provided to other staff members.
• Ensure that the cafeteria manager is on e-mail listings, and make sure the staff is aware of this.
• Introduce all cafeteria employees to the school staff at the beginning of the year and as new employees arrive.
• Invite the cafeteria manager to staff meetings when appropriate to address issues that involve meals.
• Inform cafeteria manager of any field trips or events that will affect lunch participation at least three weeks in advance to allow for ordering adjustments.
• Allow marketing and participation in monthly promotions that enhance nutrition education.

As a standing set of practices, the Child Nutrition Services Department will:

• Require cafeteria managers to communicate any changes in menus, policies, procedures, etc., with his/her principal immediately.
• Work cooperatively with principals regarding issues in the cafeteria impacting campus procedures.

• The Child Nutrition Services Department pledges to support the educational process through the positive interaction and partnership of the local cafeteria with each campus-based administrative team.
As of June 30, 2022, the federal waivers – administered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) – that made it possible for us to serve school breakfast and lunch meals to students for free throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, have expired. However, we are committed to providing every student with the tools they need to succeed, including nutritious meals. In this effort, we will be returning to the free and reduced application process for our non-CEP campuses.

**Meal Applications** – Applications may be taken two ways: (a) picked up from any Fort Worth ISD campus, Fort Worth ISD Child Nutrition Services Lunch Card office or (b) submitted electronically via www.MySchoolApps.com or the lunch applications link on our website. Applications will be posted on the Fort Worth ISD website and hard copies will be available at the campuses August 2022. In addition, parents may complete applications online or at the Lunch Card Office online for faster processing. Regardless of method, each student should receive an application as part of his/her enrollment package. Households should fill out one application for the entire household. If they have children attending more than one school, they only need to complete one application.

Applications submitted electronically are processed faster than those submitted manually. The Child Nutrition Services Department, by regulation, has 10 working days to process received applications.

Parents are asked to contact the Lunch Card Office at 817-814-3540 if they have questions regarding their application.

**Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)** – Any child who attends a CEP school will receive a free reimbursable breakfast, lunch and afterschool snack every day. This program also provides an alternative to the long household applications for free and reduced-price meals. Instead, a shortened Household Income Survey, which can also be completed online, will quickly complete the process.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>NON-CEP Campuses</th>
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<tr>
<td>02 Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>55 Applied Learning Ctr.,</td>
<td>116 Lilly B Clayton</td>
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<tr>
<td>62 International Newcomers</td>
<td>149 North Hi Mount</td>
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<tr>
<td>69 McLean 6th</td>
<td>156 Ridglea Hills</td>
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<td>71 Benbrook Middle/High</td>
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<td>81 YWLA</td>
<td>194 Daggett Montessori</td>
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<td>84 World Languages</td>
<td>207 Westpark</td>
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<tr>
<td>87 IM Terrell</td>
<td>229 Overton Park</td>
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MEAL SERVICE

Regular mealtimes specified in regulations for the NSLP have been identified as 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Meal periods should not begin prior to 10:00 a.m. or end after 2:00 p.m. Breakfast time is designated as any meal served prior to 10:00 a.m. Meal periods beyond the specified times require permission from Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

All food items shall be sold within the times set for breakfast and lunch hours as established by the campus administrator and cafeteria staff. It is important to close the cash register on time so that necessary reports can be completed promptly after lunch. Any exception shall be cleared through the Child Nutrition Services director or Child Nutrition Services coordinator.

EXEMPT DAY FUNDRAISERS

Federal regulations maintain strict guidelines regarding competitive food sales in districts participating in the National School Lunch Program. The types of foods that can be sold outside of the NSLP, and when and where they can be sold, are subject to very strict “Smart Snack” guidelines. The state of Texas does allow, and FWISD takes advantage of, up to six “exemption days” for the sale of competitive food at each school site, each year, for fundraising purposes. The same rules and regulations apply for the SSO program.

FWISD campuses must adhere to the maximum of 6 Smart Snack exempt fundraiser days per campus, per school year. These exemption dates are for fundraisers involving food or beverage sales to students during the school day that do not meet “Smart Snack” nutritional guidelines. “School day” is defined as midnight to 30 minutes after the official school day ends. The Nutrition Department is required to log exemption days for each campus, for the school year, in advance in order to be compliant with regulations.
SMART SNACKS

All snack items sold in schools must be Smart Snack compliant. **If items sold in vending machines are not Smart Snack compliant, then the machines cannot be turned on until 30 minutes after the school day ends.**

Smart Snack items are “whole grain-rich” or have the first ingredient listed as a fruit, vegetable, dairy product, protein food, or are a combination food that contain at least ¼ cup of fruit and/or vegetable.

**Snack items:**
- Must be ≤ 200 calories
- Contain ≤ 200 mg of sodium
- Total fat must be ≤ 35% of calories
- Saturated fat must be < 10% of calories
- Trans fat must be 0 g
- Sugar content must be ≤ 35% of weight from total sugars in foods

**Entrée items:**
- Must be ≤ 350 calories
- Contain ≤ 480 mg of sodium
- Total fat must be ≤ 35% of calories
- Saturated fat must be < 10% of calories
- Trans fat must be 0 g
- Sugar content must be ≤ 35% of weight from total sugars in foods

To determine if your product is Smart Snack compliant visit: [https://foodplanner.healthiergeneration.org/calculator/](https://foodplanner.healthiergeneration.org/calculator/)

For other resources surrounding Smart Snacks including fundraising ideas, visit [www.fns.usda.gov](http://www.fns.usda.gov).
MEAL CHARGING POLICY

The Fort Worth ISD Child Nutrition Services Department will allow students to charge meals. Meals will be served to students with balances less than $7.80 at high schools and Middle Schools. However, an alternate meal will be provided for high school and middle school students with balances above the charge limit. All elementary school students will receive a regular tray regardless of the charged amount on their account.

- **Allowable alternate meal items are designated on high school menus with an (A).** Alternate meals are provided at all high and middle school campuses.

  The alternate lunch is intended as an “emergency meal” when a student is over the department charge limit. Any student who exhibits a pattern of consistently eating the substitute lunch should be identified by the cafeteria manager and reported to his/her principal and supervisor for further investigation. It is our duty to work with campus administrators to determine if the student may benefit from free/reduced priced meals.

  Cafeteria managers will report students to the campus faculty who exceed the charge limit. Teachers are strongly encouraged to inform students (individually) who they know are over the charge limit to report directly to the cashier for an alternate lunch.

RETURNED CHECK PROCEDURES

The Fort Worth ISD Child Nutrition Services Department uses PAYTEK Check Recovery Service, a service that electronically collects on returned checks and the state-allowed fee.

Managers are asked to forward any concerns from the check writer, parent or student to the PAYTEK Customer Service at the number below. If the check writer or parent would like to contact PAYTEK directly to discuss payment of an existing NSF check, please provide them with the number listed below:

  PAYTEK Customer Service  
  Phone: 1-800-641-9998
SPENDING LIMITS

Parents are encouraged to use this option to set spending limits and restrictions for their children. Account limits may be in a dollar amount daily or other designation for the cafeteria staff to honor. Examples of frequently requested limits are: No Extras, One Snack per Day, or Snacks on Friday Only. Any limits on lunch accounts must be made in writing and given to the cafeteria manager, not faculty. Requested spending limits by dollar amount are enforced by the point-of-sale software. Restrictions outside a dollar amount are enforced by the cashier.

NOTE: A NEW SPENDING LIMIT/ACCOUNT RESTRICTIONS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. The Account Restrictions Form is located in this manual and is also available on the Child Nutrition Services page of http://www.fwisd.org.

NOTE: IF PARENTS HAVE SET SPENDING LIMITS ON THEIR CHILD’S ACCOUNT AND THEY HAVE LUNCH WITH THEIR CHILD AT SCHOOL, THEY WILL NEED TO BRING CASH WITH THEM FOR THEIR MEAL.

STUDENT TRANSFERS AND WITHDRAWALS

It is critical that campus cafeteria managers are contacted when a student is transferred to another campus or when they withdraw from the District. All free and reduced information is centrally handled, and at times there may be documentation that needs to follow the student to prevent an interruption in benefits at the new school.

Students transferring between campuses will have all money in the account transferred automatically. The process takes 48 hours to complete. This can be expedited if the manager is notified of the transfer. In this manner, the two managers can coordinate an immediate transfer of funds, independent of the computer system.

Students withdrawing from the District with balances in their account of $50 or less may have the money refunded at the campus level. Students withdrawing with balances greater than $50 will have a check mailed to the parent. It is important that forwarding address information be left with the cafeteria manager or Angela Lowe in the Child Nutrition Services Department in order for the refund to be processed.

Please add cafeteria staff to any withdrawal forms/checklists to allow for proper handling of monies owed or due for refund. Campuses will refund amounts equal or less than $50.00. A District check will be issued for refunds above $50.00.
Our menus are created to meet specific meal pattern guidelines set by the USDA and TDA. These guidelines are based on grade level and determine the number of calories, saturated fat, sodium, protein, fruits, vegetables, and milk students should be offered.

Nutritional information is available for every grade level on our website at https://schools.mealviewer.com/district/FortWorthISD

More information regarding OVS can be found on the USDA Website at www.fns.usda.gov
DIETARY ACCOMMODATIONS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) nondiscrimination regulation (7 CFR 15b), as well as the regulations governing the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program, make it clear that substitutions to the regular meal must be made for children who are unable to eat school meals because of their disabilities, when that need is certified by a licensed physician.

In most cases, children with disabilities can be accommodated with little extra expense or involvement. The nature of the child’s disability, the reason the disability prevents the child from eating the regular school meal, and the specific substitutions needed must be specified in a statement signed by a licensed physician. Often, the substitutions can be made relatively easily. There are situations, however, that may require additional equipment or specific technical training and expertise. When these instances occur, it is important that school food service managers and parent(s) be involved at the outset in preparations for the child’s entrance into the school.

All requests for dietary accommodations will be initiated with the campus nurse. The nurse will ensure that proper paperwork is completed and send to the dietitians at the CNS office. CNS will ensure that the accommodations are implemented in the cafeteria. Parents are encouraged to use this option to set spending limits and restrictions for their children

In Cases of Food Allergies
Generally, children with food allergies or intolerances do not have a disability as defined under either Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or Part B or IDEA, and the school food service may, but is not required to, make food substitutions for them.

However, when in the licensed physician’s assessment, food allergies may result in severe, life-threatening (anaphylactic) reactions, the child’s condition would meet the definition of “disability,” and the substitutions prescribed by the licensed physician must be made.

Other Special Dietary Needs
The school food service may make food substitutions at their discretion for individual children who do not have a disability, but who are medically certified as having a special medical or dietary need. Fort Worth Child Nutrition Services offers lactaid milk for a student with Lactose Intolerance. A medical authority or the student’s parent or legal guardian must provide a written request for the fluid milk substitution.

https://www.fwisd.org/Page/28234
AFTERSCHOOL SNACK PROGRAM

Do you have an afterschool activity or enrichment program? Campuses with student populations that are at least 50% economically disadvantaged as of October 30th from the prior year can qualify to utilize the CACFP Snack Program. This program qualifies eligible sites to be provided with free snacks for students. Coordinators of the program will simply need to watch an online Civil Rights training and track snacks provided to students with a roster.

Please complete the After School Snack form two weeks prior to the desired start date. https://www.fwisd.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=70863&dataid=94494&FileName=Sack%20Lunch%20Order%20form.pdf

SACK LUNCH MEALS

To best meet the needs of your campus during Field Trips or Field Days, we ask that the individual organizing the field trip please notify the kitchen manager of the dates at least two weeks prior to the event.

The kitchen manager will need to know the grades, classes, time needed and estimated number of students to allow for proper ordering and staffing arrangements. By using a roster, students will continue to receive a reimbursable lunch; therefore, it remains at no-cost to students on the free lunch program and the same costs as lunches on campus for both reduced and full paid students.

Please complete the Sack Lunch Form and return to CNS office two weeks prior to desired date. https://www.fwisd.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=70863&dataid=94492&FileName=Testing_Order_Form.pdf

SUMMER PROGRAMS

The Seamless Summer Option (SSO) allows meals to be served to any child 18 and under for free during the summer vacation. Campuses with student populations that are at least 50% economically disadvantaged as of October 30th from the prior year can qualify to utilize the Seamless Summer Option (SSO). Please coordinate with your campus kitchen manager and area manager to find out about eligibility at your campus for these programs. Community sites may also qualify by their surrounding economic eligibility.
Research shows that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Here is how this connects to our students & the teachers & administration supporting them:

- **Better focus, attention, retention in the classroom**
- **Less disciplinary issues and distractions**
- **Higher test scores on standardized testing**

Finding the optimal breakfast service model is of top priority for us to ensure each school can see these benefits for every student. In certain middle schools we have changed from a traditional breakfast on the line to grab and go carts. This has resulted in a significant increase in the number of students eating breakfast each day. Look for more breakfast carts on secondary campuses in the next school year.

* Breakfast service model will be chosen by the school administration in conjunction with the CNS Supervisor. Models that require staffing changes will must be approved by the CNS Resident District Manager.

### RALLY CAFÉ & TEST KITCHEN

Test Kitchen is an integral part of the Rally Café at all FWISD high schools. Test Kitchen stations feature chef-created, innovative and customizable recipes. This year we have featured street tacos, boneless wing bar, and stir fry at various campuses in one-time pop-up events. This year our goal is to have a test kitchen at each Rally Café once per week!

### PROMOTIONS

Monthly promotions are featured at the elementary, middle and high school level to engage students and encourage them to try new items. Monthly promotions are highlighted on our menus, as well as our social media platforms.

May 6th, 2022, is School Lunch Hero Day. School lunch hero day has become increasingly popular with our schools. It is encouraged to write a thank you note to your favorite lunch heroes and show your appreciation on this day.
Why are adult meals more costly for similar portion sizes?
Adult meals cannot be subsidized by Child Nutrition Services funds. Therefore, the federal reimbursement and commodity value received for student meals must be added to any items sold to non-students, hence the price difference.

How much notice is needed for the cafeteria to fill special requests, field trip requests and STAAR orders?
Three weeks’ notice is needed for any change in meal service or special events.

Where can we find free & reduced roster information?
Campus managers cannot provide roster information due to Civil Rights requirements. This information is uploaded nightly into the student enrollment system for PEIMS purposes.

Why do we give alternative meals instead of feeding everyone, even if they don’t have money?
The Child Nutrition Services program must remain a self-sufficient entity. All operational expenses to include labor, food, supplies, maintenance and any other expense are paid by campus revenue. The program cannot remain self-sufficient while providing free meals.

Do parents know that they can set limits on student purchases?
The Account Restriction Form in this manual is available online at the Fort Worth ISD website and is publicized in menus and newsletters. To set limits, parents must complete the appropriate form (elementary or secondary) and provide it to the cafeteria manager of their child’s campus.

What is CEP?
CEP stands for Community Eligibility Provision. It was established by The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and allow children in low-income, high-poverty schools to receive free meals. Fort Worth ISD (FWISD) is piloting this program at 86 qualifying schools across the district.

Why are CEP sites asking parents/guardians to fill out a Household Income Survey?
Economic information is still necessary to receive other educational funding, but no meal application is required at these schools.

How are schools chosen to participate in CEP?
A school’s total enrollment and its student’s categorical eligibility are used to determine a percentage known as the Identified Student Percentage (ISP). The ISP for each site or group of sites must equal at least 40% to qualify, however the FWISD Child Nutrition Department requires that the overall percentage for the pilot schools be 63% in order to remain financially neutral to the District and for taxpayers. Fort Worth ISD has 86 campuses on the CEP program.