

## CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM: LUNCH, BREAKFAST, AND EXTRA SALES

**Free and Reduced Priced Application:** It is extremely important that every household complete an application for free and reduced priced meals regardless of whether or not your child plans to eat in the cafeteria. An approved application provides:

- Tangipahoa Parish School System with additional funds
- Standards for eligibility for JTPA Jobs for students
- Additional funds for children with special needs (gifted, handicapped, etc.)

The multi-family free lunch application will be used once again. You should list every child in your household, except foster children, on this application. Each foster child is listed on a separate application. If you are listing more than seven (7) children, please list them on a separate sheet of paper and attach to the application. After completing the form, return it to the Tangipahoa Parish Child Nutrition Program 59656 Puleston Road, Amite, LA 70422.

Applications will be mailed to the parents. Applications must be returned prior to September 5th. The Child Nutrition Program will use last year's application until September 5th. If an application is not received by September 5th, the child will have to pay full price for a meal. If there is no application on file for a student from the previous year, the child will have to pay for meals until an application is received. Three percent of all applications received will be required to provide proof of income. Families can apply for free or reduced meals any time there is a loss of employment or increase in family size. All information is kept confidential.

**Breakfast:** Breakfast is served in all schools. Serving will begin with the arrival of the buses and will continue until the time the school day officially begins. No breakfast is served on half days. Students who receive free meals are eligible for the breakfast.

**Lunch-Elementary:** The elementary lunch consists of one menu daily with no choices. Extra sales are available after a meal is purchased. Milk, juice, and water may be purchased prior to purchasing a meal. Additional extra sales include: fruit juice slushes, cookies, pickles, cheese sticks, and sugar free, low fat ice cream.

**Lunch-High/Middle School:** The high/middle school lunch consists of one menu daily with no choices. Extra sales are available after a meal is purchased. Milk, juice, and water may be purchased prior to purchasing a meal. Additional extra sales include fruit juice slushes, sandwiches, pizza, cheese sticks, cookies, canned juice, sugar free low fat ice cream and pickles.

**Extra Sales:** Numerous items are sold as extra sales. The items sold must meet the nutritional standards of the items in the meal pattern. We do not sell cold drinks, candy, etc. in the cafeteria. Some schools require cash payment for all extra sales. Others deduct the cost of extra sales from the lunch money and paid in advance. If you do not want your child's extra sale purchases deducted from their lunch money account, you must notify the school or make sure your child understands that they must pay for their extra sales purchased daily.

**Meal Prices:** Meal prices for the 2008-2009 year are as follows:

<b>Breakfast: Elementary and High School</b>	<b>Lunch: Elementary</b>	<b>Lunch: High/Middle School</b>
<b>Paying</b> \$0.75	<b>Paying</b> \$1.50	<b>Paying</b> \$1.75
<b>Reduced</b> \$0.30	<b>Reduced</b> \$0.40	<b>Reduced</b> \$0.40

**Handicapped and special dietary needs:** Handicapped and non-handicapped children with special dietary needs can be met at no additional cost to the parents provided a physician submits a statement in writing prescribing the diet. A menu and the food is normally in inventory. A menu will be sent to the parent. The parent must select from this menu foods that the child may have. Medical prescriptions for special diets must be renewed each year by the physician. Last year's special diets/prescriptions will not be honored without a current update as outlined above.

**Billing:** Kindergarten and elementary students are billed in advance for that month. Credit is given for any meal missed the previous month. The months of April and May and November and December are billed together. Timely payment is a must. The state will not allow The Child Nutrition Program to extend credit. A late notice, advising of a cut-off date for students to receive meals, is sent to parents who have not paid on time. Tangipahoa Parish Child Nutrition Program does not want to refuse your child a meal! If you fail to pay for your child's meals on the specified deadline, your child will be served partial menu items for three additional days. (Partial menu items consist of a roll and milk, etc.) On the fourth day, you must make arrangements to send a bag lunch for your child, as meals will not be served. Please see that payments are made on the specified dates. High school and middle school students pay daily for their meals or in advance. If a high school or middle school student forgets to bring money for their meals, they will be served one meal without

pay. The next day the student must bring money for the day they charged as well as the day they plan to eat. Change will not be made in the cafeteria. All students must bring the exact change for the meal. Time for feeding students is limited. Therefore, students must bring the exact change to the line. Any overage will be credited to the student's account. Rollover of debts and balances: All debts and balances shall be rolled over to the next year.

**Balance:** If your child ended the last school year with a balance in their account, the balance will be deducted from your child's first bill. If your child is a transfer student to another school the credit will be applied to the October bill. If your child is a high school student with a balance, they will not be charged for meals until the balance is depleted.

**Debt:** If your child ended the last school year owing money to the Child Nutrition Program they will not be allowed to eat in the cafeteria until the debt has been paid.

**Refunds:** If your child has a balance at the end of the previous year, you may request from the principal for up to two weeks after the closing of schools. If you do not request the refund during that period of time, the balance will be rolled over to the next school year.

**Biometric Scanning:** Biometric Scanning is currently used at the "Point of Service" to identify the meal status of the students as well as to maintain current balances. In the past, students used a number or scanned a meal card. Biometric scanning is not mandatory. The assignment of numbers is still a choice. If you do not want to participate in the Biometric Scanning, you must write a note to the principal prior to the opening of school requesting that your child's finger not be scanned. If you choose not to participate in biometric scanning and another student uses your child's number, you will be responsible for the debts incurred. Also, if your child forgets their number they will be asked to go to the back of the line. (This policy was in place last year.)

## ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

In compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) and Louisiana Administrative Code Volume II, Air Quality Division Title 33, Chapter 27, Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools and Public Building Regulation, the Tangipahoa Parish School Board wishes to notify you of the following:

This letter represents the annual notification regarding asbestos-containing materials in schools. Several asbestos abatement projects have taken place in various schools throughout the system, each in strict compliance with the above-mentioned regulations. Periodic surveillance and other preventative measures are also ongoing. These actions have been documented and placed into the Asbestos Management Plan.

You may view a copy of the Management Plan by contacting the school principal. If you have any questions about the Management Plan, you may contact your school or Mr. Vernon Willie, the asbestos-designated person for the Tangipahoa Parish School Board at (985) 748-2499, or (985) 748-2490.