



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! I don't think any of us could have ever imagined that this is how the year would begin, but that hasn't stopped our team from working hard to keep mealtime a bright spot in your student's day. Even though we understand plans may continue to evolve, we want you to know that the one thing that won't change is our commitment to continue creating the best dining experience for our students and keeping mealtime a safe, happy and healthy experience for all.

In addition to serving foods kids love to eat and offering great-tasting menus developed by our chefs and dietitians, health and safety remains our top priority. Our team has been working collaboratively with the district to determine what plans will fit best with each school and the instructional activities.

For the Elementary Schools, this means: **For the foreseeable future, lunch services will not be served.**

For the Secondary Schools, this means: **Students will still have the opportunity to visit the cafeteria to pick up their meals for Lunch, however there will be no Breakfast served until further notice. Students will enter and exit the Cafeteria in appropriate waves to ensure proper social distancing and eat elsewhere in pre-determined areas. Chartwells will be stationing a "student ambassador" at the cafeteria entrances to monitor student flow and maintain social distancing as well as disinfect all "high touch points". All meal choices will be in a closed container, "Fresh Food Served Fast". View our interactive menus with the ability to filter for allergens as well at www.westport.nutrislice.com**

In addition, ALL SCHOOLS will be operating on a "CASHLESS" system this year. Your student may deposit a personal check made out to "The Westport School Lunch Program", with the cafeteria Cashiers or link your bank account or credit card to your students account at www.myschoolbucks.com. You will need your students ID# to register, so please reach out to me for assistance if needed.

Health and Safety Remains a Priority

While the logistics and location for how meals will be served is different, students, staff and parents can have peace of mind knowing that Chartwells K12's plans are rooted in the most stringent health and safety practices aligned with federal and state regulations, along with local health department recommendations.

All Chartwells K12 associates will participate in COVID-19 specific training developed in consultation with the Cleveland Clinic, undergo health screenings before each workday and follow strict guidelines for glove, mask and physical distancing protocols. Enhanced cleaning and sanitation measures help assure the safest environments possible.



Menus and Nutrition Facts at Your Fingertips with the Nutrislice App

Chartwells K12 continues to bring technology to the forefront of the dining experience to help students and their parents prioritize healthy food choices and understand ingredients to help protect their children from allergic reactions. Through Nutrislice, an innovative app, students, parents and faculty have access to school menus, including nutrition information, allergens and photos, available on desktop and mobile devices. Everyone is encouraged to download the free Nutrislice App from the App store (iOS) or Google Play (Android) and search for your menus or find them on the web at www.westport.nutrislice.com

Innovative Food and Nutrition Education Programs Will Continue

Keeping school meals fun and engaging and as a time for students to connect with others, recharge, and enjoy a sense of happiness is part of who we are. Our goal is to continue to inspire healthy eating habits and spark a culinary curiosity to last a lifetime through these core programs, which we will continue to adapt to the current environment:

- **Student Choice:** brings the latest food trends to school menus and gives middle and high school students a voice in deciding what food concepts are featured and new menu items that will be available.
- **Mood Boost:** this innovative program helps elementary and middle school students connect what they eat with how they feel. It features recipes and characters that focus on six moods: Smart, Happy, Confident, Alert, Strong and Calm.
- **Discovery Kitchen:** Designed to make nutrition education fun and entertaining, Chartwells chefs and dietitians have worked together to create curriculums that get kids cooking, trying new foods, and learning about what they're eating. Each month has a different theme and activities will be adapted for the current meal programs.

Free/Reduced Meal Registration

We recognize that many families may have experienced a change in financial circumstances and may be seeking additional help. We want to make sure you know that Free or Reduced Lunches are available for students and that the registration process is easy and confidential and can help your children stay well nourished. You are encouraged to check out the Westport District website for more information and to apply. Signing up only takes a few minutes and the information submitted is only used to determine meal eligibility. This needs to be completed no later than October 15th, 2020.

Through sharing our passion for great tasting food, instilling a desire for food discovery, and most importantly, providing nourishing meals, we're excited to continue serving up happy and healthy to your children in the year ahead.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you,
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