

September 2009

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians:

Welcome Back!

As always it is a pleasure to once again offer you the best in school lunch as well as service.

The 2009-2010 school year promises to be exciting in many ways and your school meals are no exception. We have spent the summer adding new recipes to our lunch menus, new beverage and snack products as well as new programs that will provide you with healthy choices for breakfast, lunch and after school meals. I invite you to navigate through the next few pages and view some of the new and exciting things that have been planned for your child.



In an effort to encourage students to start the day off right, ARAMARK, a world leader in providing professional services, is introducing *AMP Up with Breakfast*, a new breakfast program for kindergarten through 12th grade students. The program is being launched in ARAMARK-managed school districts such as Plumsted as well as others across the country. While the benefits of breakfast and good nutrition are well documented, statistics show that only two percent of children ages 2-19 receive daily balanced nutrition according to USDA guidelines. Approximately 12 percent of students report skipping breakfast and only 11 percent of students eat a breakfast that contains foods from three food groups. ARAMARK Education developed *AMP Up with Breakfast* to provide an option for students who arrive at school without the benefit of a nutritious morning meal. This initiative provides school districts with a convenient and proactive solution to ensure students are prepared to have a productive school day. The program offers easy-to-implement breakfast delivery options for classrooms, cafeterias and/or portable stations, with a focus on convenience. It features a variety of grab and go products to build a new breakfast program menu or enhance existing breakfast offerings. Students can enjoy great-tasting, morning favorites, such as fruits, wholesome hot foods, cereals, breakfast snacks, yogurt, smoothies and juice beverages. "We are dedicated to providing students with a nutritious breakfast," said Dennis Maple, president, ARAMARK Education. "Studies reveal that students are more alert and perform better in class when they eat breakfast and student attendance also improves." ARAMARK has developed customized educational tools, posters, banners, and letters to parents, advertisements in school papers, public address announcements, and graphics to communicate the importance of eating a well-balanced breakfast. In addition to *AMP Up with Breakfast* ARAMARK-managed school districts will be celebrating National School Breakfast Week in March, 2008 with many special events. So take a moment and stop by the 12 Spot at New Egypt Middle School or the U.B.U Lounge at New Egypt High School and start you day off right - *AMP Up with Breakfast*. Enjoy a full breakfast meal (NEMS - \$1.25 / NEHS \$1.25) or select your favorite foods from our ala carte offerings. Currently our elementary students can receive a full breakfast meal through the Before Care program.



ARAMARK's *SnackFactor* is a healthy snack program for middle and high school students. With *SnackFactor*, ARAMARK offers students healthy snack options, including mainstream low fat cereal bars, pretzels, baked chips and snacks, animal and graham crackers, yogurt, water, 100% juice and smoothie beverages, fresh fruits and vegetables. Through ARAMARK's various service delivery systems, healthy snacks can be offered on the traditional food service line, before and after-school, in the classroom, during state test periods, in grab-and-go kiosks and vending machines. Each menu offers a wide variety of menu items. A \$1.90 lunch consists of one entree, two servings of fruits and/or vegetables and milk. The milk choices consist of 1% white, chocolate; fat-free; & 2%.



The Point Of Sale debit system allows you to prepay for your child's breakfast, lunch and/or ala carte purchases by cash or check, for a week, a month or even a year. Your money will be deposited into your child's debit account and all purchases will be deducted from this account when your child uses his/her personalized PIN number.

To access online services:

1. Simply go to the district web site at www.newegypt.us
2. Click on the Aramark website link.
3. Click on the MyNutrikids.com link. From this site, you will create your account and add money to your child's school meal account. All you need is your child's name, student ID number and school ZIP code. The instructions listed on the back of this page will guide you through the easy online account set up process.

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 PayPal 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 \$1.75 per deposit transaction. Parents placing money into multiple meal accounts will only be assessed the \$1.75 fee once per deposit transaction. Plumsted School District will not profit from the use of this site.

The debit system decreases the need for students to make daily cash payments, thus increasing the speed and flow of the lunch lines. However, since we cannot accept post-dated checks, please do not hesitate to pay via cash or money order, if you anticipate any difficulties with rendering payment in the form of a check. Please note that if your child receives free or reduced-price lunches, this system provides complete confidentiality, once again, using their PIN number. Whether your child eats once a week or every day, your child may use the new computerized POS system. This is how the POS System works for all students (Full Paid, Reduced and Free):

- Each student is issued a PIN number (which should not be "shared" with friends). *The PIN number is the last 4 digits of your student's ID number.* You can get this ID number from the main office at your child's school he or she is attending. During the first 2 weeks of school, your child's teacher will distribute a card with their PIN number to all students daily before lunch. This card stays in their classroom.
- During lunch service, the student will approach the cashier with their purchases and enter their PIN into a key pad. The student's account will appear on the cashier's computer screen. The cost of the student purchases will automatically be deducted from the child's account balance, without the need for the daily exchange of cash.
- If a student's account reaches less than zero, a negative balance letter will be sent home on a monthly basis or you will receive an e-mail from Nutrikids if you are participating with the online services.
- The POS system will allow students to charge a meal if lunch money is forgotten. A negative balance letter will then be sent home for parents to balance their child's account.
- Any debit balances in the account at the end of the year will be transferred to the student's account for the following year, even if they change schools. *The balances will not be refunded.* Please plan accordingly.
- At any time, parents may request a list of their child's purchases for review.

Our cashiers will still be processing cash customers. Even if your child buys lunch only once or twice a week, he or she can still participate in the debit system.

During the first couple of weeks of the new school year, lines may be longer as students get used to the new system. However, once the system is fully implemented lines will move quicker than they had before the system was in place.

Deposits can be made as soon as possible and at any time. Checks are to be made payable to "Plumsted Food Service". *Please make certain that each new deposit is clearly identified as to your child's name, his/her school and room number.*

If you have any questions concerning your cafeteria service or the POS system, please call our food service office at 609-758-6800 x 26. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Thank you for your continued interest in bringing fun, healthy and nutritious meals to your children. On behalf of ARAMARK, we are grateful for the opportunity to work with you on being the Best in Class – Partner in K-12 education.

As Always,

Tina Mosher
Food Service Director
ARAMARK Education K-12