



MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION
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September 4, 2020

RE: Food Service for re-opening of the 2020/2021 School Year

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2020/2021 school year at Mahwah. This memo is intended to provide you with information regarding how Mahwah Food Service operations have been modified to coincide with the re-opening schedules in each of our schools. Although lunch is not being served in the cafeterias as we start this school year, meals for students will be available every day.

All of the information below is also available on our District website for Food Services, <https://www.mahwah.k12.nj.us/Domain/118>.

Offerings

There will be a single menu available to all students Grades K-12. The menu for the month of September is attached and can also be found on our website. All meals will be individually boxed and, if necessary, will include instructions for re-heating at home.

Ordering

New this year, ordering of all student meals will be done through **myMealOrder.com**, which is a pre-order system through Payschools Central, the site already utilized by the District for the purpose of making payments for school activities and food services. An introduction letter and User Guide are attached and can also be found on our website.

Parents may pre-order lunches for their students for multiple days or even weeks in advance through this service. We encourage all families to take advantage of this ordering system to facilitate the efficiency and effectiveness of our Food Services team to provide nutritious meals to our students.

Parents must place a lunch order no later than midnight (12am) the night before they want their students to receive lunch.

Since this is a new process for everyone, for the first week of school ordering will also be available by e-mailing foodservices@mahwah.k12.nj.us. Please include your student's name, school, homeroom, and schedule (AM or PM for K-5 students and Pride or Spirit Grouping for 6-12 students). As with the online ordering, orders emailed directly to our food service staff must be submitted by midnight the night before.

If you need to order a special lunch due to an allergy, please coordinate this through your school nurse as you have in previous years.

Please contact Payschools Central Parent Support at 1-877-393-6628 or psc_help@payschools.com for help setting up myMealOrder.

Cost

In the Spring, the US Department of Agriculture approved several waivers to minimize the challenges on School Districts to serve lunches during the COVID-19 pandemic. These waivers were extended by the USDA on August 31, 2020 and subsequently extended by the NJ Department of Agriculture on September 2, 2020. As a result of these waivers, all meals served to students from our cafeterias are offered no cost to all students.

This waiver extension is scheduled to last through December 31, 2020. Upon expiration of the waiver extension, no cost meals will be available only to those students who qualify.

Because this extension is for a limited time, any families that may qualify for free or reduced lunch must complete a new Lunch Application for the 20/21 school year no later than October 2, 2020. Information about the Application for Free or Reduced lunch can be found on our website.

Delivery of Lunches

The Delivery of lunches to students will vary depending on the school your student attends or if they are participating in remote learning.

Secondary Schools Grades 6-12 – students will receive their lunches when they are dismissed from school. Because of the A/B schedule at these schools, parents are encouraged to order for multiple days so your students will be given a lunch for both that day of school as well as the following day when they will be participating in remote learning.

Elementary Schools Grades K-5 – for students in either the AM or PM session, lunches will be brought to their classrooms during the final period of the day.

Students in Self Contained classes – Lunches will be brought to your student's classroom depending on the schedule established by the school.

Students in All-Remote learning – Lunches will be available to be picked up at the High School at 1:30pm. Pick-up location will be in the front of the school by the entrance to the High School Auditorium.

No lunches will be offered in the classrooms, except as outlined above.

These procedures may be modified as needed and we appreciate your understanding as we work within the schedules developed for the Re-opening of Mahwah Schools.

Thank you and We look forward to a great year,

Mahwah Township Public Schools and Pomptonian Food Services

