## CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

Welcome Back to School
2024-2025



#### STUDENT MEAL PRICES

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH IS FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS!!!

Each school offers a variety of a la carte items for purchase in addition to complete meals.



#### **MENUS**

Monthly menus will be posted on the CNP page of the Covington County Schools district website:

www.cov.k12.al.us/childnutrition and on our Facebook and Instagram



Menus are also posted around each school and can usually be found on the school's social media.

Please be advised that we plan our menus several weeks in advance due to ordering deadlines for our distributors. Due to the current supply chain issues, last minute changes may occur that are outside of our control. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, and we ask for your understanding during these challenging times.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Samantha Carroll- Child Nutrition Program Director



Leslie Threatt- CNP Bookkeeper 334-427-3830 or 334-427-3832 samantha.carroll@cov.k12.al.us leslie.threatt@cov.k12.al.us

### CNP AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



www.myschoolbucks.com— You can use this feature to add money to your child's account, view purchases and balances, and view the monthly menus for your child's school.

www.cov.k12.al.us/childnutrition— You can access the district page for the Child Nutrition Program which features lots of helpful information and can often answer any questions or concerns.

**FOLLOW US on Instagram and Facebook** for menus, important updates, pictures, and so much more!



**Covington County Schools Child Nutrition** 



@CovingtonCNP



#### STUDENT IDENTIFICATION

Each student will be given a lunch code to memorize (typically it's three to four digits). Once enrolled in our district, our software program randomly generates this number/code for each student. This is the number they will provide to the CNP staff member when coming through the serving line for breakfast or lunch. Please work with your child on memorizing their lunch code. They will keep the same lunch code throughout their tenure at any Covington County School.

# Covington County Schools MEAL CHARGE POLICY

It is the policy of Covington County Schools to comply with all federal program regulations pertaining to the National School Breakfast and National School Lunch programs. Per the federally governed Child Nutrition Program regulations, uncollected meal charges constitute a bad debt and are unallowable. Covington County Schools' Meal Charge Policy will be in effect for the school year which begins in August and ends in May. Any school that has any outstanding balances must have all charges cleared to a zero balance by the last day of each calendar month during the school year. The limit for 'Charge' meals should not exceed \$5.00 before payment is made. Principals will be held responsible for the payment of unpaid meal charges on the last operating day of each month. Cafeteria managers will send letters home weekly to parents and guardians of students with school meal charges exceeding \$0.10 starting one operating day after the charges are incurred. No employee of the Covington County Board of Education will be allowed to charge for meals or a la carte items, and students will not be allowed to charge for extra meals or a la carte items.

Reimbursable meals at breakfast and lunch are free to all students in Covington County Schools, therefore no child in any grade will be denied a school meal. Students are not allowed to charge a la carte items or extra meals or meal components. There should not be any instances where any student carries an outstanding balance.

The Child Nutrition Program has established an online payment program that enables parents and guardians to track meals and charges, view balances, set up account alerts and notifications on specific activities and balances, and make payments to accounts. The website for this program is <a href="https://www.myschoolbucks.com">www.myschoolbucks.com</a>.











## WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CEP

**COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION** 

#### **WHAT IS IT?**

THE COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION (CEP) ALLOWS FOR MEALS AT NO COST FOR ALL STUDENTS BASED ON OVERALL ECONOMIC STATUS. IT ELIMINATES THE NEED FOR FREE OR REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS.

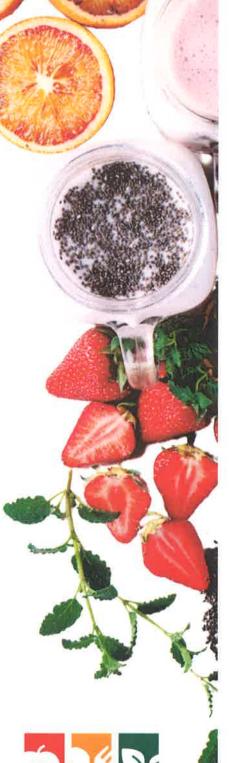
### **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**

- THERE IS NOTHING FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS TO DO! NO APPLICATIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.
- YOU CAN SKIP THE LUNCHBOX! LET US HELP YOU SAVE TIME AND MONEY THIS SCHOOL YEAR. ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO ENJOY BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WITH US.
- WE ARE PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS. STUDIES SHOW THAT CHILDREN WHO EAT SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH HAVE FEWER TARDIES, HIGHER TEST SCORES AND FEWER BEHAVIORAL ISSUES.
- YOU DON'T HAVE TO ADD MONEY TO YOUR STUDENT'S MEAL ACCOUNT, UNLESS THEY WANT TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL ENTREES OR A LA CARTE ITEMS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: WWW.TINYURL.COM/USDACEP



This institution is an equal opportunity provider







## MY SCHOOL BUCKS

Even though school meals are <u>FREE</u> to students, they may still purchase additional a la carte items and extra entrees. We ask that parents consider funding their student's meal account online

through MySchoolBucks. You can securely fund accounts using a credit/debit card or an echeck.

Parents can also set up autopay. This helps minimize the cash and check deposits that need to be handled daily, which allows us to focus on serving meals as fast and efficiently as possible.



In addition to adding money online to meal accounts, your free MySchoolBucks account also makes it easy to:

- View cafeteria purchases
- Check your student's balance
- Set up low balance alerts
- Schedule automatic payments

www.myschoolbucks.com

### WHAT MAKES A HEALTHY MEAL?

## CHOOSE AT LEAST

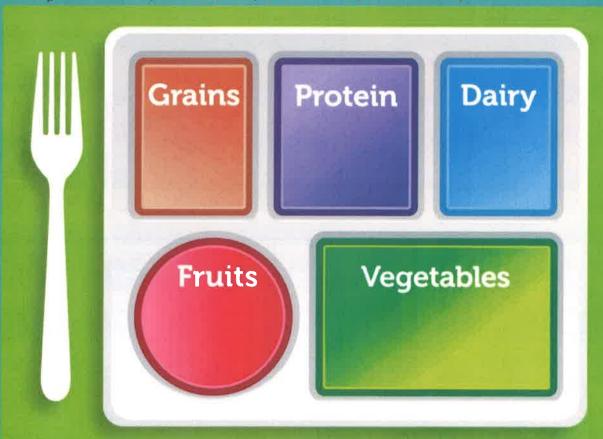
**OFFER VS. SERVE** 

ONE MUST BE A GOLD STAR...
1/2 CUP FRUIT OR VEGETABLE



**STARS** 







STRIVE FOR ALL FOR HEALTH







#### Let's Have Breakfast!

Come eat with us! All Covington County Schools offer Grab and Go or sit-down breakfasts through USDA's School Breakfast Program. Red Level School participates in Breakfast in the Classroom each morning. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/BREAKFAST ISFREE FOR ALL STUDENTS IN COVINGTON COUNTY SCHOOLS!">BREAKFAST ISFREE FOR ALL STUDENTS IN COVINGTON COUNTY SCHOOLS!</a>

### What are the Benefits of Breakfast?

- Improved academic performance (increased attention and comprehension)
- Improved overall nutrition
- Reduced absenteeism and discipline issues
- Lower risk of obesity
- Less stressful mornings when parents know students are fed at school
- ullet It saves families money since it is FREE  $\@$

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, Sex (including gender identity\* and sexual orientation\*), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <a href="https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf">https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf</a>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1.Mail:U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2.Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or 3.Email:program.intake@usda.gov

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\*This language was added pursuant to the May 5, 2022, USDA memorandum. However, the inclusion and applicability of this language is currently under challenge in the matter of The State of Tennessee, et al., v. USDA, et al., Case No. 3:22-cv-00257, and may be subject to change.