

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 2006/2007 LUNCH PROGRAM

Question: Will my child receive a “credit” if I purchased a lunch and my child is absent?

Answer: YES

Question: If the lunch order form is lost and my child’s name is not on the lunch list, will my child be turned away without a lunch?

Answer: *The child will be provided with an alternative lunch and the parent will be billed for the lunch.*

Question: Who will be handling food at a school site?

Answer: *A trained DMUSD employee.*

Question: Who do I contact with questions or concerns about the 2006/2007 lunch program?

Answer: *DMUSD Business Services Department at 858-523-6170.*

Question: How far in advance will parents be notified of the menu choices?

Answer: *About one month in advance.*

Question: Will any DMUSD food service revenue be returned to the sites?

Answer: *State/Federal regulation requires that all food service revenue be used to pay for food service expenses.*

Question: Do parents have to participate in the 2006-2007 DMUSD lunch program?

Answer: *Absolutely not! The DMUSD operates the food service program as a voluntary service to students/families.*

Question: If a parent or student has a suggestion that might improve the 2006/2007 food service program, what’s the procedure?

Answer: *Call the Business Services Department at 858-523-6170 and leave a voice mail; send an email to the DMUSD Business Services Department; or make the suggestion in writing, and drop off the written suggestion at your school office.*

Question: Can I secure information about the nutritional values of different student meals?

Answer: *The 2006/2007 DMUSD menus will be planned by a registered dietician to meet United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidelines. The California Department of Education will monitor the menu so that it meets USDA guidelines. Nutritional information can be requested from the DMUSD Business Services Department.*

Question: Can the PTA sponsor a lunchtime pizza party for a school or a class and bring pizza from a local restaurant to school?

Answer: *State and Federal regulations do not allow “outside” food to be distributed at schools that participate in the USDA National Lunch Program.*

Question: Why did the DMUSD decide to enroll in the National School Lunch Program?

Answer: *To provide students with healthy lunches that meet USDA regulations.*

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Question: Will the USDA provide any revenue to help pay for DMUSD food and labor expenses?

Answer: *Yes, the District expects to receive about \$100,000 in new State/Federal revenue that will help pay for the food service expenses.*

Question: Will the revenue from the 2006/2007 food service program be adequate to pay the expenses?

Answer: *Yes.*

Question: Can a PTA contract with a local restaurant to provide food at a nighttime or Saturday event?

Answer: *Yes*

Question: Should my child participate in the DMUSD lunch program if he/she has a food allergy?

Answer: *Health decisions are the responsibility of parents. Study the menu carefully!*

Question: What happens if a parent forgets to send a brown bag lunch and has not prepaid for lunch?

Answer: *The District will have a limited number of alternative lunches available, and students who eat an alternative lunch will be billed for the lunch.*

Question: What if a site has extra lunches left over?

Answer: *The goal of our program is to minimize excess, however, the food service worker will collect any extra lunches and dispose of them promptly so that no students or employees consume food that has not been maintained at the proper temperature. The District needs its students and employees to be safe!*

Question: Who is cooking and preparing the 2006-2007 student meals?

Answer: *Since the DMUSD lacks a central kitchen; the District has contracted with San Dieguito Union High School District. For 2006-2007, the DMUSD meals will be prepared at Carmel Valley Middle School.*