

General McLane School District Food Service Update 2021-2022 School Year

August 2021

Welcome back! We hope you had a great summer. This year will continue to be a new adventure for everyone so please bear with us on any and all changes we have to make as the year progresses.

Following guidance from the PA Department of Education, the US Department of Agriculture and our local Health Department we plan to return to a normal meal service at every school.

Students will have breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria together. We will also have a la carte options again this year. The selection will start off small and will grow as the year develops.

Check out our Food Service Department Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GMSDnutrition>
For special updates and announcements! We created the page in the fall of last year and it is a great resource to get info out to families.

- ✓ Offer vs. Serve will be implemented again this school year
- ✓ All meals abide by the USDA "Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act".
- ✓ Calories, fat and sodium are limited.
- ✓ At least 50% of grains are Whole Grain Rich.
- ✓ Juice is 100% fruit juice.
- ✓ Milk is fat free or 1%

NEW MILK VENDOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR

We are excited to announce that **Turner Dairy** was awarded the bid to be our new milk vendor for this school year.

We will continue to use **Bimbo's** as our bread vendor and **Brigiotta's** as our secondary produce vendor.

Gold Star Foods was awarded the bid for our commodity food items.

We are once again participating in the SSO meal program this School Year... Meaning:

ALL MEALS ARE FREE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN GMSD FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR.

Students will be able to purchase a la carte items, second meals and drinks in addition to their free meal. The program runs the entire school year.

A La Carte Pricing Update

A complete list can be found on the district website. Prices did NOT change at all last school year and due to increases in food costs, the school board approved some increases in costs this school year.

Some examples-→

- Milk - \$0.60**
- Naked Smoothies - \$1.75**
- Gatorade - \$1.25**
- Propel - \$1.25**
- Fresh Veg Bowl - \$0.75**
- Fresh Fruit - \$0.75**

Government regulations mandate how many components must be taken to create a full meal.

Breakfast must include a Whole Grain, Fruit and Milk (Milk is optional).

Lunch must contain 3 of the following components: Whole Grain, Fruit, Vegetable, Meat/Meat Alternative, Milk

If your student does not follow this guidance, the meal will not be free and they will be charged a la carte rates.

Free and Reduced Meal Information

Even though meals are free for all, we still encourage you to fill out free and reduced meal applications. Student eligibility is important to determine every school year for other benefits like internet discounts, P-EBT benefits, fee waivers etc.

Submit a new application prior to October 13th 2021 to continue receiving free or reduced meal benefits.

Emails/Letters will be sent out at the end of the Grace Period reminding you to fill out an application. Letters will be marked as CONFIDENTIAL.

Paper applications can be found at all school front offices or by emailing amyskladanowski@generalmcclane.org

Apply on-line at
www.schoolcafe.com

Applications may be submitted any time during the school year. Parents are responsible for negative balances accrued prior to the application being submitted.

Your child(ren) might be eligible for free or reduced price meals depending on your family's household size and income. The District has two methods to determine your child(ren)'s eligibility. The two methods are Direct Certification and manual review of a Free and Reduced Meal Application.

Direct Certification families do NOT need to complete an application. All other families must complete a new application EVERY year.



Please go to the Food Service tab on the district webpage to find more information, including:
Free/Reduced meal information, My Plate Resources, Unpaid Debt Policies, Allergy Information and more.

Cafeteria Contacts:

Edinboro Elem – Kim Belde
(814) 273-1033 x 3602
McKean Elem – Jodie Stine
(814) 273-1033 x 4401
JWPMS – Debbie Lathrop
(814) 273-1033 x 2724
GMHS – Deanna English
(814) 273-1033 x 1605
Coordinator – Amy Skladanowski
(814) 273-1033 x 2618

Other things to note:

One breakfast and one lunch will be available to every student who wants one in the cafeteria at each school. They must have money on their account or have cash to purchase any a la carte or additional items. Students are not permitted to pay cash for an item if they have a negative balance. The cash they have will be applied to their negative balance.

Negative balance letters will be sent out weekly. In the case of extreme debt or continual delinquency a negative debt may be turned in for collections.

Allergy information:
Please submit student allergy information and updates to your schools nurse and to the Food Service Director.

Lunch Menu's will be posted to the district webpage, Facebook page and School Café page.

Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/GMSNutrition>

We are always in need of substitute cafeteria workers! If you are interested please go to generalmcclane.org to apply!