

Parent's Guide to School Lunch 2020-2021 School Year

Our Goal

Menus are planned with a goal of providing a variety of nourishing items at an affordable price in a safe environment. Community food preferences are considered so that students will like the choices that are offered. Students are encouraged to try different foods and to use the cafeteria as a learning laboratory for making nutritious choices.

Lunch Prices for Reimbursable Meal

Primary \$3.00
Intermediate \$3.40

Offer-vs-Served

Merton provides Offer-vs-Served, which is a serving method that allows students to take foods that they will eat. The intent of Offer-vs-Serve is to allow students the right to refuse food items they do not like or do not plan on eating with the exception being that students must take one fruit or vegetable to comply with USDA guidelines. Offer-versus-Serve helps increase student acceptability and decrease food waste.

Allergies

If your child has any food related allergies, you must contact your school nurse and forward any medical information and forms yearly to the Dining Services Office for consideration.

The Merton School District participates in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) under a contract with Chartwells School Dining Service. Students may purchase lunch every day or as often as they like. Students may bring a cold lunch if they prefer. We aim for our lunch program to be simple-to-use, appealing and nutritious.

The NSLP guides Merton meal service. The United States Department of Agriculture administers this program and has established guidelines that must be followed by the District.

NSLP guidelines specify the type of meal to be served and the quantities of each food that must be offered. The school lunch provides 1/3 of the Recommended Daily Dietary Allowances for key nutrients as well as sufficient calories to provide for the energy needs of growing children. An emphasis is placed on providing calories from whole grain breads, vegetables, and fresh fruits. Low fat milk is offered. Recipes have been revised to lower the amount of fat, sugar and salt. The nutritive value of products is evaluated so healthy choices are available to students.

Non-Discrimination Statement: In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, Merton School District is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider.

For questions about your student's food service program please contact:
Bethany Soderlund RD, CD - Director of Dining Services
Chartwells K12

Lunch Menu

A nutritious lunch is provided every school day in all schools. A reimbursable lunch consists of an entrée (protein), vegetable, fruit, grains, and milk. Students may select 3-5 of the offered items with one being at least a ½ cup of fruit or vegetable to make a reimbursable meal.

Merton Primary offers an entree, fresh and frozen vegetables, canned and fresh fruits and milk. Extra milk is available to purchase for \$0.25.

Merton Intermediate offers a choice of hot entrées, hot sandwiches, deli subs, salads, parfaits, vegetables, canned and fresh fruits and milk.

A la carte option at Merton Intermediate: Individual sales of various snacks, fresh fruits, vegetables, juice, water, milk, fresh baked cookies and ice cream treats.

COVID-19 Mitigation Procedures

Chartwells has been and will continue to be committed to your student's health and wellbeing. We are taking additional measures to ensure meals are provided safely.

Food service staff will be required to:

- ✓ Complete daily temperature checks prior to starting work
- ✓ Complete daily health screening questionnaire
- ✓ Wear a mask throughout the work day
- ✓ Disinfect high touch surfaces in the kitchen at least twice daily

Food safety measures:

- ✓ All fruits and vegetables will be served in individual cups or tamper-evident sealed bags
- ✓ All utensils will be individually wrapped
- ✓ All condiments are individually packaged
- ✓ Students will not use the pin pad at the Point of Sale
- ✓ Safety shields were installed at cashier stations

Virtual Learners

Students learning virtually for SY 20-21 can choose to pre-order via the link sent weekly via email. The link will bring you to a survey that will allow you to order meals for the upcoming week. Please complete one survey per family (all children listed in one survey). Look for the Virtual Learner menu to see daily options.

When picking up meals, we will ask you to verify your student's names and building in which they are enrolled. We will charge the student(s) accounts according to their free, reduced, or paid status.

Lunch pick up will be available at the back entrance of the Primary School from 1:15 to 1:45 on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please ring doorbell when you arrive (doorbell will be sanitized between use).

Nutrislice Application

Nutrislice is our interactive menu application for desktop and mobile where you can find nutrition and allergy information. Find the menu here: [MertonK12.nutrislice.com](https://www.merton.k12.wi.us/families/lu) or use the link on the Merton School District website: <https://www.merton.k12.wi.us/families/lu>
nch.cfm