

LUNCH NEWS 2019-20

LUNCH PAYMENTS

Lunch payments can be made online at [www. MYSCHOOLBUCKS.COM](http://www.MYSCHOOLBUCKS.COM), it is not mandatory to use the online payment system. You may also send a check with your student to deposit into their account at the cafeteria of their school. Checks should be made out to: **BPS Lunch Program**. Please include students name on check.

Each student has their own account, so if you have more than one student you have multiple accounts. We no longer have them as a family account through the lunch system.

To find out more about signing up for online payment system, simply go to www.benningtonschools.org, go to the school your child attends, to parents, then online payments. Or go directly to MySchoolBucks.com and sign up.

Monthly lunch menus are available online by going to the website www.benningtonschools.org then to the tab of the school your child attends, students tab, then to lunch menu.

LUNCH BALANCE POLICY

The lunch account system is a prepay system. You must have funds in the account in order to use it. If no funds are available a sandwich and milk will be offered to the student.

You may review your lunch account balance and account activity online through myschoolbucks.com. Email and phone notifications are sent out daily for low balances on accounts. .

Our lunch staff will continue to tell students when they are starting to get low in their account. With the enhancement of the online payment and balance information system, families can easily monitor their family account. Please make sure to keep a positive balance in your family account.

2019-20 FREE AND REDUCED MEAL APPLICATION

What does the Free and Reduced Program Offer?

The program offers free and reduced meals to those in need. Families may qualify based on income guidelines set-up by the US Dept. of Agriculture and the Nebraska Dept. of Education Nutrition Services.

How does a person or family qualify for benefits?

The first step is to fill out an Application for Free and Reduced Meals. Based on income, a family may qualify using several factors, including household income, number of persons living in household, and whether the family is currently receiving Food Stamps, TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families), or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations).

How to apply?

Applications and instructions for applying are available at registration before the beginning of the school year, online at the school website and a copy can also be picked up in each school office.

Fill out the application in full, listing all students. Under Additional Household Members, **list everyone residing in your household, related or unrelated and his/her income if any. Applications must be filled out completely to be considered.**

Applications may be submitted any time throughout the school year and should be returned to the student's school office, brought to the district office during regular office hours, or mailed to **Bennington Public Schools, Attention: Joann Pruess, PO Box 309 Bennington, NE 68007.**

If you have any questions, please call **Joann Pruess at 402-238-3044** or email questions to jpruess@bennps.org

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LUNCH ROOM POLICY 2019-20

Breakfast is served each morning in our cafeterias. Serving begins at **7:45a.m.** and continues until **8:10**. Students who ride the bus are invited to go directly to the cafeteria upon arrival; there will be adequate time for those who wish to have breakfast at school. Students eating breakfast must remain in the cafeteria until the **8:00** entry time to leave for their classrooms. **Serving concludes at 8:10 a.m.**

Students may bring sack lunches, if desired (state lunch guidelines stipulate **NO** pop in the lunchroom). Any type of fast food brought in is strongly discouraged!! We also have a closed campus at noon, which means students are not permitted to go home to eat lunch. Proper conduct is expected from all students in the lunchroom.

Each Student Has an Account

Each student has his or her own personal account number. Students should not be giving this number to anyone else to use. A computer tracks your student's breakfast/lunch account. As students proceed through the food line, students enter their personal account number into the computer, deducting the cost of each meal. **It's not a charge card – all meals must be paid for in advance.**

Manage Your Student's Account

Please be sure to mark your child's lunch account number on your check to insure it is deposited to the correct account. If you have more than one child, please list their names on the check.

Deposits of any amount can be made to your student's account, reoccurring payments can be set up online also. **All deposits are to be made in the cafeteria prior to 8:10. Any deposits received after that time will be deposited the following school day.** All money goes into your student's account; we do not "make change". Please discuss with your child your expectations of how this account is to be used. **We strongly encourage you to pay online by going to www.myschoolbucks.com.** You can pay online using your credit/debit card or your checking account. **Contact Joann Pruess at 402-238-3044** for more information regarding online payments.

Breakfast	(K-8)	\$1.60 daily	\$8.00 weekly
	(9-12)	\$1.70 daily	\$8.50 weekly
	(Reduced)	\$.30 daily	\$1.50 weekly
	(Adult)	\$2.20 daily	\$11.00 weekly
Lunch	(K-5)	\$2.45 daily	\$12.25 weekly
	(6-8)	\$2.75 daily	\$13.75 weekly
	(9-12)	\$2.80 daily	\$14.00 weekly
	(Reduced)	\$.40 daily	\$ 2.00 weekly
	(Adult)	\$3.60 daily	\$18.00 weekly
Milk		\$.45 each	

(One carton of milk is included with each meal purchased.)

Free and Reduced Price Meals

Free and reduced-cost breakfasts and lunches are provided for those who qualify. Students who qualify for free or reduced priced meals are provided the regular breakfast or lunch as stated on the menu. **Ala carte items and extras are not included in the Free & Reduced plan and students will be charged full price for any of these items purchased. Ala carte items may only be purchased if there are sufficient funds in the family account to cover the cost.** Application forms are provided to each family at registration and are also available in the school offices. We encourage families to apply.

Confidentiality

Each account is confidential. We can track account information **upon request!** Also, you can access your account on line through the website myschoolbucks.com. Please contact **Joann Pruess at 402-238-3044** if you have any questions regarding your account.

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