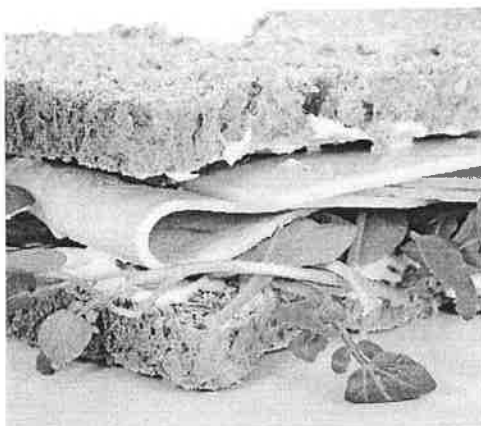


WELCOME BACK!



DEAR PARENTS,

The beginning of the school year is approaching, and we would like to extend a warm welcome to let you know that Whitsons School Nutrition has a comprehensive plan to meet all of our student meal needs. Our goal is to serve nutritious, well-balanced meals that appeal to students and to the school community while continuing our safe food handling practices that we always have. With the new challenges presented by Covid-19 we will be particularly focused on new ways to deliver our students the quality and variety our students and families have come to expect, all while meeting the National School Lunch Program requirements.

In this letter you will find where to locate resources and information in addition to our plan for the hybrid model Newtown Public Schools has adopted for the start of the school year. Please keep in mind that as we move forward through the year and circumstances evolve, we will be posting our changes to this document on the Newtown Public School webpage under the School Nutrition and Lunch Menu section.

FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATIONS

Applications can be downloaded online via Newtown Public Schools webpage under School Nutrition and Lunch Menu tab. Please complete and return the free and reduced lunch application as soon as possible via mail. The free and reduced application is required to be completed annually. If your student is returning, please be aware that last year's status expires on **October 13th**, and if the district has not received a new application, your students' status will be returned to paid. For more information about the free and reduced application please email Jacki Kulikowski kulikowskij@newtown.k12.ct.us.

Please mail your application to:

Attention: Jacki Kulikowski
Newtown High School
12 Berkshire Rd
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

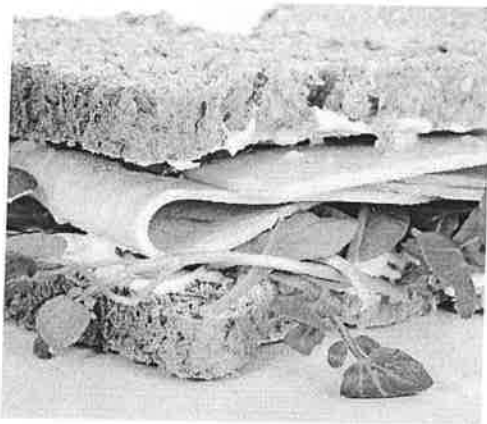
MEAL PRICES:

All Reimbursable Meal Prices abide by the USDA & CSDE guidelines.

	Lunch
Paid – Elementary	\$3.10
Paid – RIS & Middle School	\$3.35
Paid – HS	\$3.60
Reduced (all schools)	\$0.40

Fat-free unflavored, 1% or fat-free chocolate milk is available with all reimbursable meals. All 8 oz. milk cartons are \$.50 when purchased ala carte.

WELCOME BACK!



PAYMENTS: ONLINE, IN PERSON AND MONITORING ACCOUNTS

Due to Covid-19 we strongly encourage you to utilize the online payment system described below!

School Lunch Account Information:

Newtown Public Schools offers myschoolbucks.com, a convenient online service that allows you to securely pay for your child's school meals using your credit/debit card or electronic check.

myschoolbucks offers families the following:

Convenience:

- Make payments when it's convenient for you, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Monitor your student's account balances online
- Make payments and receive account balance alerts with the new mobile app:

<https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/login/getmain?requestAction=home>

Control:

- Receive low balance email reminders to remind you when it's time to add more money
- View your student's cafeteria purchases

Efficiency:

- Make your payments for all your children in one easy step, even if they attend different schools in the district
- No need for mailing, delivering checks, or sending checks to the school for filling lunch accounts

Flexibility:

- Make payments using your VISA, MasterCard, Discover, credit/debit cards, or electronic check
- Use the option to have payments made automatically adding money to the account each month when a threshold is reached that you set
- Receive deposit confirmations sent directly to your email account

Timeliness:

- Money deposited into myschoolbucks.com is usually active in your student's account by the next morning

Create a MySchoolBucks account:

Go to www.myschoolbucks.com

Enter Student's School and ID number

The 9-digit student ID number can be obtained by contacting the school lunch manager or main office.

In person payment:

If you must utilize in person payments, please send your students in with either cash or check made payable to Newtown School Lunch Fund in an envelope with your student and teacher's name on it. For students attending elementary schools they may hand the envelope to their teacher who will forward it to the office by a staff member. Students attending RIS, NMS or NHS are requested to hand the envelope to the cashier at the time of service


WHITSONS[®]
School Nutrition

MEAL DISTRIBUTION

REMOTE LEARNERS IN ALL NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lunch will be available for curbside pick-up Monday and Wednesdays at Newtown Middle School and Newtown High School.

Meals may only be picked up from 9:15-12:15pm.

Multiple meals can be available to pick up on Monday's and Wednesday's.

Students do not have to be present to pick up meals.

Parents and guardians can pick up for more than one Newtown Public School student at a time.

Meals provided will be charged/registered to the students account at the time of pick up.

Due to state regulations, we are not permitted to serve students who do not attend Newtown Public Schools.

This service will be available starting on Wednesday September 9th due to shortened days and the Holiday to start off the school year. A signup sheet will be going out though email.

For any questions regarding our remote learner's curbside meal pick up options, please contact Joe Stango at 203-426-7637.

NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOLS IN SCHOOL MEAL SERVICE

Students will be required to follow new marked floor traffic patterns to promote physical distancing protocols.

Lunch will be served in the serving area to accommodate physical distancing protocols.

Hand sanitizing station available upon entrance of the cafeteria and is encouraged to be used.

Meals will be prepackaged and individually wrapped to reduce cross contact and increase speed of service.

Students will be dismissed to lunches in three service blocks: 11:02-11:32am, 11:47-12:17pm and 12:31-1:01pm to reduce the number of students in the area at once.

Tables and frequent contact surfaces will be cleaned in-between lunch waves.

Seating areas are marked to allow accurate physical distancing during students lunch waves.

For questions regarding Newtown High School's in-school meal service, please contact Joe Stango 203-426-7637.

NEWTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL IN SCHOOL MEAL SERVICE

Lunch students will be required to follow new marked floor traffic patterns to promote physical distancing protocols.

Hand sanitizing station available upon entrance of the cafeteria and is encouraged to be used.

Meals will be prepackaged to reduce cross contact and increase speed of service.

Each lunch box will contain a prepackaged entrée, individually cupped/wrapped fresh fruit and vegetable, milk, a silverware kit, a napkin, and pre-portioned condiments.

Tables and frequent contact surfaces will be cleaned in-between lunch blocks.

Seating areas are marked to allow accurate physical distancing during students lunch waves.

REED INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL IN SCHOOL MEAL SERVICE

Students will be dismissed to lunches by waves. Lunch will be served in the serving area to accommodate physical distancing protocols.

Students will be required to follow new marked floor traffic patterns to promote physical distancing protocols.

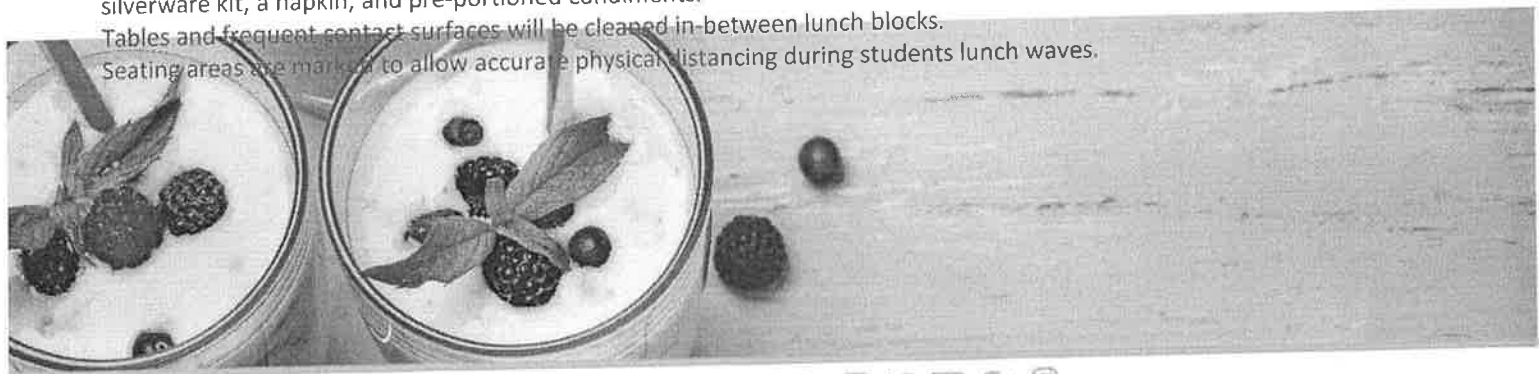
Hand sanitizing station available upon entrance of the cafeteria and is encouraged to be used.

Meals will be prepackaged to reduce cross contact and increase speed of service. Signage will be posted for each menu item to help with the flow of traffic.

Each lunch box will contain a prepackaged entrée, individually cupped/wrapped fresh fruit and vegetable, milk, a silverware kit, a napkin, and pre-portioned condiments.

Tables and frequent contact surfaces will be cleaned in-between lunch blocks.

Seating areas are marked to allow accurate physical distancing during students lunch waves.



ELEMENTARY IN SCHOOL MEAL SERVICE

Students will order their lunches in the morning from their classrooms with their teachers.

Meals provided will be charged/registered to the students account.

Each lunch box will contain a prepackaged entrée, individually cupped/wrapped fresh fruit and vegetable, milk, a silverware kit, a napkin, and pre-portioned condiments.

Frequent contact surfaces will be cleaned in between deliveries.

DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Joe Stango, Director of Food Service (203)426-7637; stangoj@whitsons.com

Jacki Kulikowski, Program Administrator (203)270-6134; kulikowskij@newtown.k12.ct.us

Nicole Demers, Chef Manager (203)426-7654; demersn@whitsons.com

Melanie Rotante, Registered Dietitian (203)270-6117; rotantem@whitsons.com

OTHER INFORMATION:

To learn more about Whitsons, and to stay up to date with any changes to the food service in Newtown Public Schools please visit our website on the districts webpage at <https://www.newtown.k12.ct.us/SchoolNutritionAndLunchMenus>.

We're excited about our continued partnership with Newtown Public Schools as we look ahead to another year of being part of the greater Newtown community. We have been privileged to assist the community consistently since the move to remote learning and all throughout the summer. We thank you for your support and encouragement of us as we all get through this pandemic together.

Sincerely,



Joseph Stango
Director of Food Services

