# News from the Food Service Department at Gettysburg Area School District August 2026

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Food Service Department at Gettysburg Area School District welcomes you and your student back to the new school year. We are thrilled to share the information below and wish your student(s) a successful school year. **#GO WARRIORS!**

## NEW as of August 1 – School Café Payment System ONLY for Food Service

You will be able to access school café through the GASD Web Store . If you don't already have an account set up go to SchoolCafe. You can make payments, track your student's lunch account balance, see transactions made and make restrictions for ala carte purchases. All student allergen information and ID numbers remain the same. Notification letters will be released periodically from the point of sale system via email regarding low and negative balances. Please take the time to read your notifications, pay the negative balance ASAP and contact our office if you have any questions at that time. Please keep in mind that you cannot reply back to the letters coming from our system. You need to send a separate email directly to the email address used in the letter.

**Attention Enrolled VIDA Students – No VIDA student meal payments are made in SchoolCafe.**

## Lunch Accounts and Ala Carte Purchases

Accounts should have a positive balance for the child to use as they are getting their lunch. Please understand that ala carte purchases are not allowed if there is no money on the child's account at that time If you need to go into the negative for a reimbursable lunch purchase, you should pay the negative balance ASAP.

## Free and Reduced Meals for 2026-2027 School Year

Eligibility letters have been sent out over the past several weeks. If you received a grace period letter that means that your child's free or reduced meals will expire on 10/2 and beginning 10/3 they will have paid eligibility. This means you will be responsible to pay for their meals. Please fill out the meal application for review.

If you meet the eligibility guidelines, you can apply for free or reduced meals. Meal application can be filled out at **SchoolCafe** or **Compass**. Paper applications are available **Application - English** or **Application - Spanish**

The household letter is attached as a separate pdf with the income guidelines.

## Negative Lunch Account Balances from 25-26 School Year

If you have a negative balance of more than $20.00 to start the school year, you are strongly encouraged to apply for free and reduced meals ASAP! This should be done prior to the school year starting. The negative balances should have been paid by June 30 which ended our fiscal year. Letters were emailed and/or mailed to your home address over the summer many times. You can pay online at SchoolCafe or mail a check payable to GASD Food Service to Gettysburg Area School District, Administration Office, 900 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 with envelope to the attention of Food Services. You can pay with cash or check at our office, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. through August 6. Beginning August 10, our office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please call our office at 717-334-6254 ext. 1204 if you need to set up a payment plan. If you have been receiving the emails or mailed notifications, this pertains to you. After August 19, you will be receiving a letter directly from the business office and may no longer be able to make payments with a credit card. You may be also sent to the magistrate for collections of the negative balance and will incur additional expense with fees.

## FREE BREAKFAST FOR ALL!

**Encourage your children to eat breakfast at school! The reimbursable meal is FREE!** If they choose ala carte items then there is a charge for those. All school buildings at Gettysburg Area School District offer a full nutritious breakfast daily in our cafeterias and grab-n-go stations (depending on the building service model) for convenience and accessibility.

## Pennsylvania Farm to School Nutrition

Keeping it Fresh! The Food Service Department at Gettysburg Area School District is proud to be an active member of the PA Farm to School Network. We are committed to purchasing fresh/local ingredients from a network of vendors through PA's Farm to School Program. Our district has the distinct privilege to leverage locally grown fruits, vegetables, dairy and meats that help support our local business partners, while providing our student population with high quality fresh ingredients. Students will have the opportunity during the school year to participate and sample local foods from our partners in the Farm to School Program.

## Warrior and Kid Cafés

We are excited to bring culinary excitement to the Food Service Program in many ways this school year. The lunch meal period will be center stage for some "Culinary Recipe Sampling" and "Chef Inspired" meals. During the school year, students can look forward to exciting new recipes, seasonal offerings and promotional limited time only specials.

## Donations

If you would like to make a donation to assist those that cannot pay for their children's meals and may not qualify for free or reduced meals, please make check payable to Food Service. Mail to Gettysburg Area School District, Food Services Department, 900 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Please mail a separate check from your student's lunch account payment. Write donation on the memo line of the check.

## Office Communications

If you have questions and/or concerns regarding your child's lunch account or need assistance with submitting a meal application for review, please feel free to call Tammy Signor, Food Service Secretary at 717-334-6254 ext. 1204 or email tsignor@gasd-pa.org.

We are here to assist you and enjoy talking with our parents.

Sincerely,
Nick Milone, Food Service Director
Gettysburg Area School District
nmilone@gasd-pa.org
717-334-6254 ext. 1279

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Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form USDA Complaint Form (PDF), from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:
(1)mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
(2) Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov
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