

Food for Thought

Everything you need to know about the new meal program

Food service survey seeks opinions, ideas

Important reminders:

- Food surveys will be conducted online through March 31.
- My School Bucks has replaced PaySchool.
- The food services program has a new Facebook page. Visit: www.facebook.com/whfoodservices

Bon a petit

Here is another sampling of the new menus.

- Chili in a bread bowl
- Butternut squash bisque
- General Tso's chicken salad
- Philly steak and cheese grinder



The West Haven Public Schools Food Services Department is hoping to get feedback on the revamped food program through an informal survey available now through March 31 online.

Parents of elementary school students are invited to take the survey for their children and tell us how often their youngsters purchase meals and if they like the food.

Carrigan Intermediate School, Bailey Middle School and West Haven High School students are being asked to take the survey online at home or after school to say how of-

ten they purchase meals and how satisfied they are with the quality and menu variety.

**We
want
to hear
from
YOU!**

Another question on the Carrigan, Bailey and WHHS surveys ask about students' favorite cafeteria food stations.

Surveys can be accessed online on the school district website, www.whschools.org, and

each school website.

No personal information about students will be collected, other than what school they attend. Answers will remain anonymous and be used to improve customer service, menu offerings, and overall operations.

We hope you will give us your opinions of the food program so we can continue making it better.

The school with the most survey responses will raffle off a special basket of food and goodies.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Coming soon to a school and cafeteria near you

- Sodexo is starting a "food backpack" program for Washington Elementary School students in need to ensure they have food when they are home on the weekends.
- A "Future Chefs" competition for fourth-graders will be held March 31, 3-6 p.m. at West Haven High School. All are welcome to watch the contest. Six students will make healthy sandwiches with help from WHHS culinary students before a panel of judges.

Finger swipe method introduced in cafeterias

We are excited that the new finger swipe payment method has been successfully implemented in all of our school cafeterias. The new system allows students to buy a meal by simply swiping a finger, rather than using a student ID card that can get lost or damaged.



The new system helps to curb clerical errors, tighten security of student meal accounts, speed up lunch lines, and simplify the meal purchasing process for students and food services staff. Those who opt out can still pay with cash or check.

The purchase and installation of the new system is being paid for by Sodexo as part of the company's annual investment in the West Haven School District food services program.

Did you know...

- The food services program secured an \$80,000 grant to purchase fresh veggies and fruits.
- The program uses produce from Connecticut farms.
- Food Services Director Meg Kingston helped Edith E. Mackrille Elementary School students make pesto with produce from their teaching garden last fall, and recently helped Seth G. Haley Elementary School students make bagel pizzas during a lesson on step-by-step writing.
- Menus are available on the district website (www.whschools.org) under the "Parents and Students" tab.

For more information, visit whschools.org.



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My School Bucks replaces PaySchool

My School Bucks is the new online payment system for parents to apply money to student meal accounts. We no longer use PaySchool. Visit <https://www.myschoolbucks.com> to register. You will need your student's ID number. Money remaining on your PaySchool account should have automatically transferred over to your My School Bucks account. Once you've signed up, fund your student's account via the mySchoolBucks website or mobile app, which is available for iPhone and Android.

Buildings	Breakfast Prices	Lunch Prices
High school	\$1.25 Reduced 30¢	\$3.25 Reduced: 40¢
Bailey, Carrigan	\$1.25 Reduced 30¢	\$2.75 Reduced: 40¢
Elementary	\$1.00 Reduced: 30¢	\$2.50 Reduced: 40¢