



## MSD15 School Meal Program Overview 2021-2022

Meal programs at Marquardt School District 15 are federally funded. The USDA extended waivers to allow all students to eat FREE this school year. The Food and Nutrition Services Department team is excited to nourish students in-person this year. With a majority of our staff being local community members, your student's health and wellness is our top priority. Below are some frequently asked questions about our program for this school year:

### **What are the menu options?**

For lunch, students will have the option of a hot entrée or cold entrée daily. Menus will be posted and able to be printed from our website ([www.d15foodandnutrition.us](http://www.d15foodandnutrition.us)). In order to expedite meal distribution and support social distancing, students will not be able to choose their own fruit and vegetable sides. There will be a rotating menu daily of those options. Children can choose from 1% white milk or non-fat chocolate milk at the time of meal pick up.

### **Do you offer breakfast?**

To support social distancing, we will be providing breakfast "to-go". During lunchtime, all students will have the opportunity to grab breakfast items before leaving the lunchroom. These items will be put in their backpack or locker to be taken home and eaten for breakfast at home the next morning. There is no pre-order required for breakfast. All offerings will not need refrigeration.

### **How does my student order a meal?**

Students will raise their hands for either the hot or cold entrée menu offering in the morning and meal counts will be sent to the office. The office will then send total meal counts to their onsite food service team and central kitchen. Students are always welcome to bring a lunch from home if they choose not to order school lunch.

### **Do you offer snack options?**

Traditionally snacks (ala carte) are offered for purchase at Marquardt Middle School. This year, we will not start the year offering snacks to support transitioning students to modified student seating locations.

### **How will my student receive their meal?**

Meals will be individually packed per student. Students will choose their milk selection and then take their pre-packed fruit & vegetable sides with their hot or cold entrée selection. Students will pick up their meal at the designated pick up location.

### **Will students have a lunch card or lunch account?**

Since all students eat at no charge, there will be no student pins or student lunch cards. Meals will be reported by food service staff on a tally sheet for the district to claim and receive reimbursement for the meals.

### **What happens if my student packs their lunch and would only like milk?**

In order to receive milk for your child, we ask that they take fruit & vegetable sides along with their choice of milk. By taking these meal components, the meal is free. Currently we do not have a system to collect money for milk only this school year.

### **What is the district doing with leftover food from the meal program?**

Since students do not have an option to deny any side items, we understand that students may not consume their whole meal. In an effort to reduce food waste, a "share-back" cart will be placed in designated locations near the eating areas.

Students can place any unopened and uneaten school meal item on this cart (fruit, vegetable, milk, non-perishable snack item, condiment). Items on this cart will be safely handled and will be put back into the program to reduce food waste.

**What safety measures are in place for meal distribution?**

Each meal bag will have individual hand wipes for students to sanitize their hands prior to eating. Pre-packaging the meal bags will expedite the meal line to support social distancing practices. Students should not share food among each other.

**What if I need vegetarian meals or have a child that needs accommodations due to a severe food allergy?**

There will always be one vegetarian option daily. Some days those will be hot lunch options and some will be cold lunches. There is no need to place a special request for vegetarian meals. If you need an accommodation due to food allergy, please visit our website to print a modified meal form for your physician to complete.