

# School Lunch Program



Date: 7/1/2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We want to update you with another year of exciting news. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has provided money to extend free school meals for all students through the 2024-2025 school year! This means that all students can receive one free breakfast and one free lunch every day.

**Please note that even though meals will be free for all, it is very important for families to still complete the household Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals for the 2024-2025 school year. We strongly encourage ALL families to submit this form as it allows us to establish eligibility for other benefit and fees throughout the school year, and to serve families most effectively.**

Free & Reduced Meal Applications will be available on-line as of Friday 8/9/2024. Please check our website for the link [here](#). You will have the option to fill it out on-line or print a paper copy and send it in to me at school. **PLEASE make sure you are using the applications posted online: 2024-2025 Application.** I will not be able to use prior year's applications or applications from other schools. In addition, if you have a student who is attending another school district I will need a separate application. We are the only school in this district and we do not share application information with other schools.

**Find our Menu's Online:** Look for these logos on our webpage to view our menus. Menus will be posted for August & September 2024 by 8/16/2024.



**Follow us for our daily menu options and for any daily updates**



Web-site - <https://oldcolony.us/about-the-school/cafeteria/>

Facebook -

[Old Colony Cafeteria - Cougar Café](#)

Instagram -

[oldcolonycafeteria](#)

**Second Meal & Ala Carte Charges:** Yes, meals will remain free for the entire school year. Every student can get one free breakfast and one free lunch each day. There will be fees/charges if they want a second meal, double or other ala-carte items. If there is any question with [what is included](#) with a meal please ask one of the cafeteria staff. [You can view all ala-carte prices on the website.](#)

2024-2025 Meal Prices – Second Meal Prices

Breakfast \$2.00

Lunch \$3.75

**We will continue to be a cashless environment during all meal services and all students will need their School ID's on them at all times.**

On their ID is a barcode that they will scan at the register. If this is their first year at Old Colony and they do not have an ID yet, we will provide them with a copy of their barcode on or before the first day of school. All past year, Old Colony ID's will have the same bar code. Students will not need to wait to have a new ID for this school year.

**Deposit Funds on Student Account:** [My School Bucks](#) is the online system that allows you to view what your child has purchased and make a deposit to the school meals account. You can deposit money into their account before school starts! Just select the MySchoolBucks Icon on our [web page](#) to set up an account. All new students should be updated in the system by 8/9/2024. Please let me know if you have any issues after that date. You will have an opportunity to make reoccurring deposits or individual deposits, as you need them.

You will receive an email before school starts that has your students' name, school ID# and balance on meal account. You can use this information to look up you student in My School Bucks, to create an account and deposit money so they are all set for day one. **If you have not received an email by 8/15 please check your spam folder, still nothing, email me so I can make sure I have the correct information on file.** [candrade@oldcolony.info](mailto:candrade@oldcolony.info) Unfortunately, at this time I can only send information to one contact per student.

If you prefer to send in a check, please make the check payable to Old Colony. On the memo line, put your child's name & ID number. **The check must be in a sealed envelope with your child's name and ATTN: Cafeteria on the front.** Your child will need to bring this to the front office first thing in the morning or in the drop box located by the registers at breakfast. We will then deposit money onto accounts before lunch service begins. Please do not forget to write all information on envelope & check. 😊

**Water** - We will still be offering an 8oz bottle of water free with all meal. There is a water fill up station that can be used to refill the bottle.

Additional 8oz bottles of water can be purchased for \$0.50 or 16oz bottles will be available in the vending machines for \$1.00.

**Vending Machines** - We have two vending machines in our cafeteria and one located in the hallway closest to the Gym. All vending machines will be available during all lunch shifts plus before and after schools. Vending machines will include snacks and chips, but will also have some meals, sandwiches, smoothies and other grab & go options. All can use cash but students and staff can also use their school meal accounts to make purchases. Students free meals can be purchased through the vending machine. The system knows if they

have received their free meal and will charge the accounts as purchased. There is a 2-step verification process to make sure the information is entered correctly. This is a great option to add an addition service line during school or if anyone is staying after for any activities.

**Special Diets:** Go to [Old Colony's website](#), select About then Cafeteria in the navigation bar (across the top of the page), scroll down and select Special Diet Information and On-line Order. Once you are here, you can select the special diet you are looking for and this will lead you to the Lunch order form. I will have the following weeks order form posted by Friday of each week. Please fill it out and submit it by Sunday night so we have it first thing Monday Morning. We start early☺ I will have the first order form posted by Thursday August 22nd.

Please fill out the meal [modification request form](#) to inform the school nutrition department of any meal modification requests.

**Helpful Tips:**

- Please view and have your student view the slide show on the [cafeteria page](#). This will be posted just before New Student Orientation the week of August 19th. It is set up for new students but is always helpful to review if you have any questions with in the school cafeteria.
- Take a few minutes to navigate through the cafeteria page to see everything we have to offer.
- On the Frequently Asked Questions Page there is a 1 question form to submit any questions you may have.
- **\*\*Most of the underlined words in this letter are a hyperlink to get you there faster☺**

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Looking forward to seeing your child soon☺

Crystal Andrade, School Nutrition Director

[candrade@oldcolony.us](mailto:candrade@oldcolony.us)

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

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 which can be obtained online at: [USDA Discrimination Complaint Form](#) , 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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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