

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NUTRITION SERVICES

1305 CHARLES STREET FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701-4756 (907) 451-1004

www.k12northstar.org/departments/nutrition

Email: foodservice@k12northstar.org



Dear Parents:

The 2020-2021 school year is filled with change and Nutrition Services has been working hard to ensure your children have a safe and wonderful experience. We hope the following answers most of your questions but if not, please contact us.

Do I have to pay for meals? FNSBSD participates in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program so it depends upon whether your children qualify for free meals or not. Meal eligibility (free, reduced, full pay) is determined once an application has been completed and processed or we receive information directly from the state (e.g. SNAP benefits).

If you feel your children would qualify, please complete and submit the 2020 -2021 school meals Application for Child Nutrition Programs online at <https://www.schoolcafe.com/>. Paper applications are also available at the Nutrition Services Center, 1305 Charles Street, Fairbanks, all school locations, and can be downloaded in PDF form to print from the school district website <https://www.k12northstar.org/Page/9846> as well.

What do meals cost? Breakfast costs \$2.00 (elementary) and \$2.25 (secondary). Lunch costs \$3.50 (elementary) and \$3.75 (secondary). Reduced price is \$.40 for lunch and breakfast is FREE! Visitor or non-student prices are breakfast \$3.75 and lunch \$5.50.

How do I pay for meals? Our Nutrition Services staff will continue to accept cash and checks at our schools. <https://www.schoolcafe.com/> provides you the opportunity to pay online with a credit or debit card. Please know the site is operated by a third party and adds a 5% transaction fee to the payment.

Will the kitchen be able to make change if I pay in cash? It will depend on the bill denomination. Our elementary managers don't have enough on hand to make change for large bills and the school offices will no longer have cash available. We recommend that you provide cash in the desired payment amount. We also accept checks made payable to Nutrition Services.

My child will be physically attending his/her "brick & mortar" school. What can they expect? Meal service will be very similar to years past. Elementary students will pick up meals at the kitchen and return to the classroom to eat. Middle and high students will pick up meals and eat in areas the building administration designates. Funds (if required) must be available on the child's account in order to receive meals.

My child is e-learning, enrolled in his/her "brick & mortar" school. Can we get meals? If your child is enrolled at school (e.g. Weller) and e-learning, you are able to order and pick up meals at your child's school. Meals can be ordered directly with your child's school kitchen manager via email by 8 am the business day PRIOR to daily pick up. Meals will not be cooked so instructions will be provided. Your child's meal status will apply (e.g. free, reduce, full pay) and funds (if required) must be available on the child's account in order to receive meals.

Where do I go to pick up meals? Please contact the kitchen manager at your child's school for this information.

****UPDATED** My children are e-learning 100% but are enrolled at different schools. Can I pick up meals for all of them at one location?** Yes. A state issued photo ID and your children's student ID # will be required. Our staff asks for this information to ensure we are compliant with the federal program regulations.

My child is e-learning, can I pick up meals for multiple days at one time? Our meals will be available for daily pick up. Multiple meals are not available at this time.

My child is going to be homeschooled. Can we get meals? No. If your child is enrolled in a traditional homeschool program (e.g. BEST), we are unable to provide meals.

My child will be physically attending his/her middle or high school, can we get meals for the days they are e-learning? Yes. Your child can order take away meals directly with the school kitchen manager during the day but no later than their lunch period. Meals will not be cooked so cooking and safe storage directions will be provided. Your child's meal status will apply (e.g. free, reduce, full pay) and funds (if required) must be available on the child's account in order to receive meals. These meals will be distributed on Mondays and Tuesdays in a central location during school dismissal.

My child attends middle school and was sick on the attendance day when take away meals were distributed. Can I still get those for her? Yes. At middle and high schools, we distribute take away meals for the e-learning days on Monday and Tuesday. If your child is gone, please contact the school's kitchen manager to make arrangements to pick up meals.

My family is under quarantine. How can I get meals for my enrolled students? You will need to contact the Nutrition Services Admin Office at 451-1004 by noon the day before pick up to designate an alternate adult to pick up meals for your children. This alternate adult cannot live in your household or have had any direct contact with anyone in your household. You will need to develop a meal drop off system which ensures no close contact between your designated adult and anyone in your household.

During your call, we will gather the necessary information from you and inform the school where pick up will occur. Please make sure your designated alternate has a state issued photo ID and your children's student ID #. Our staff is required to ask for this information to ensure we are compliant with the federal program regulations.

Does my student have to pick up the meals? No. We would love to see your student and I am sure they would love to see us but in the event your child cannot be with you, you must have a state issued photo ID and your child's student ID # to pick up meals. Our staff is required to ask for this information to ensure we are compliant with the federal program regulations.

****UPDATED** I called my child in sick for the day (he was to physically attend his school). Can I get meals for him?** No. Unfortunately when there is a sick day, we cannot provide meals for your child.

My child's school is closed and they are remote learning. Can I get meals for them? Yes. Distribution of daily breakfast and lunch meals will occur between 9 am – 1 pm. If your children will not be with you please have a state issued photo ID and your children's student ID #. Our staff is required to ask for this information to ensure we are compliant with the federal program regulations. Your child's meal status will apply (e.g. free, reduce, full pay) and funds (if required) must be available on the child's account in order to receive meals.

What measures are we taking to mitigate the COVID risk? We are implementing many measures in an effort to mitigate risk and provide a safe meal experience for your child. All food and beverage items are sealed or individually wrapped. Hand sanitizing stations will be at the beginning of every serving line for our customers to use and mask wearing will be required. Floor decals and other signage will be placed throughout the serving lines to help promote social distancing. Our staff will wear masks during service and a plastic barrier will surround the cashier. We also are making efforts to limit the points of contact (e.g. pin pad, money).

I still have questions. Who do I contact? You can email us at foodservice@k12northstar.org, call (907) 451-1004, send a Facebook message (Nutrition Services – Fairbanks School District) or a Let's Talk message (link located at the bottom right on the www.k12northstar.org webpage