

September 10, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Every day, we strive to serve up happy and healthy in all of our schools at Woodbridge Township School District and are excited to have the opportunity to serve all of our students again this year. That said, I don't think any of us could have ever imagined that we would head back-to-school still amidst the pandemic, but that won't stop our team from working hard to keep mealtime a bright spot in every student's day.

We recognize that over the past few days, there were a few instances where we didn't meet the expectations of all of our students and families. We want you to know that we've had the chance to work with the administration to make additional adjustments to our meal service and menus which will be in place before the end of next week. While we understand plans may still evolve as the pandemic continues, we want you to know that the one thing that won't change is our commitment to creating the best dining experience for our students and keeping mealtime a safe, happy and healthy experience for all.

In addition to serving foods kids love to eat and offering great-tasting menus developed by our chefs and dietitians, health and safety remains our top priority. Our team has been working collaboratively with the school district to determine what plans will work best with each school, alongside the instructional activities. At Woodbridge, we're excited to announce some important updates to mealtime activities:

- All students grades K through 12 will have the opportunity to visit the cafeteria for their lunch period. Our team can't wait to serve students in-person again.
- Every day, students will be able to select from a variety of menu options that include both hot and cold entrees, as well as vegetarian selections.

Some of our signature programs, including Discovery Kitchen, Mood Boost and Student Choice, will return. Woodbridge was one of the first districts in the country to experience these events and activities, which will bring new menu items and fun nutrition education to students – all in a safe way. More on these programs is included below.

## Health and Safety Remains a Priority

While the logistics and location for how meals will be served may be adjusted, students, staff and parents can have peace of mind knowing that Chartwells K12's plans are rooted in the most stringent health and safety practices aligned with federal and state regulations, along with local health department recommendations. Specifically, at Woodbridge:

 Students will be required to wear a face mask when entering the cafeteria and visiting service areas where they get their food.

- Once in the cafeteria dining room, students will have seating options that will allow for social distancing. As each of the schools dining rooms are different, questions concerning seating details for your students' school should be directed to your schools' administrator.
- In addition, we want you to know that all Chartwells associates will participate in COVID-19 specific training developed in consultation with the Cleveland Clinic. Enhanced cleaning and sanitation measures will also help assure the safest environments possible.

## Menus and Nutrition Facts at Your Fingertips with the Nutrislice App

Chartwells K12 brings technology to the forefront of the dining experience to help students and their parents prioritize healthy food choices and understand ingredients to help protect their children from allergic reactions. Through Nutrislice, an innovative app, students, parents and faculty have access to school menus, including nutrition information, allergens and photos, available on desktop and mobile devices. Everyone is encouraged to download the free Nutrislice App from the App store (iOS) or Google Play (Android) and search for your menus or find them on the web at https://woodbridge.nutrislice.com/Please check menus daily for updates and modifications.

## **Programs that Encourage Fun and Discovery**

Chartwells continues to inspire healthy eating habits and spark a culinary curiosity to last a lifetime through fun and engaging programs. We look forward to bringing the following events and activities back throughout the year:

- Discovery Kitchen: Designed to make nutrition education fun and entertaining,
  Chartwells chefs and dietitians have worked together to create curriculums that get kids
  cooking, trying new foods, and learning about what they're eating. Each month has a
  different theme and activities will be adapted for the current meal programs.
- **Mood Boost**: This innovative program helps elementary and middle school students connect what they eat with how they feel. It features recipes and characters that focus on six moods: Smart, Happy, Confident, Alert, Strong and Calm.
- Student Choice: Giving middle and high school students a voice in deciding what food concepts are featured and new menu items that will be available, Student Choice brings the latest food trends to school menus.

Through sharing our passion for great tasting food, instilling a desire for food discovery, and most importantly, providing nourishing meals, we're excited to continue serving up "Happy and Healthy" to your children in the year ahead. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Resident District Manager here in Woodbridge Joe Twardowski and his team at (609) 335-0115.

Thank/you,

Gene Sanchez

Regional Vice President - Mid-Atlantic

Chartwells K12