

Beginning in December 2012, there will be new USDA requirements for school meals. Over the last several years, the Nutrition Services Department has been proactive in implementing these changes gradually so that students will not see major differences in their school lunch this year.

However, the time has come for the major changes. We hope you will give the new menus a chance. We appreciate your suggestions and your participation in our program.

What changes will be made:

- At least half of the bread/grain servings offered must be whole grain-rich. Almost all of our grains offered already meet this requirement. However, there are **minimum & maximum** bread requirements. Elementary Schools have to less than 9 servings of bread per week. The soft pretzels that we used to serve counted as 2-1/2 servings of bread. We have to switch to a small pretzel to meet the bread requirement.
- Some of the pizza we served counted for 3 breads. We will have to limit our pizza selection to pizza that only counts for 1.75 breads. We will not be able to serve twisted edge, real slice or personal pan pizza under the new requirements.
- Peanut Butter & Jelly sandwiches will be served with a string cheese for protein and with crackers to meet the bread and protein requirements.
- Chef Salads will be served with a bag of whole grain goldfish crackers, graham crackers & saltines to meet the bread requirements.

- Vegetables must be offered from the following groups each week: dark green, orange/red, starchy, legumes and other vegetables such as celery and green beans. You will notice more beans added to the menus to meet the weekly requirements. Give them a try, you might find that you like them!

- Students must select at least one fruit or veggie at lunch or they will be charged full price for the individual lunch items instead of meal pricing.
- Students will receive more fruits and veggies at no extra cost!
- Students must also be offered a larger portion of vegetables

If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at 466-4831, x1189.

Another Important Change:

www.MyNutrikids.com is changing into www.mySchoolBucks.com!

If you are already registered with MyNutrikids, please follow the online instructions to set up your account on mySchoolBucks. If you have not registered before, why not try it now? It is **FREE!** You can view your student transactions for free or you can make prepayments for a processing fee of \$1.95. All you need is your student ID number. Call today to get your student ID number: 466-4831, x1189

Thank you,

Laura Jones, SNS
Director of Food Service
Geneva Area City Schools