

The Child Nutrition Programs are operated in each building by the OHM BOCES School Food Service Team. We are pleased to announce that in the 2023-2024 School Year, we will be operating under the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)- meaning all meals are FREE to all students!

OHM BOCES strives to provide students with tasty, nutritious, fresh, foods that appeal to students and the school community. We have continually exceeded federal and state guidelines for all required nutrients and increased our offerings of fresh fruit and vegetables. Farm to School items and programming are improving our students' connections to fresh food and resources. The menu balances student preference, commodity foods, and locally sourced foods that are fresh, fun, and encourage students to explore new flavors and new preparations.

Each student has their own meal account with an assigned pin number. Please be sure to help your children learn their numbers; especially if they are new participants. You can also use this account to make payments for a la carte items; checks made out to OHM BOCES Food Service, or online prepayments (ezschoolpay.com) are preferable, though cash in a labeled envelope is also an option.

Because we are operating under CEP this year, families do not need to fill out Free/Reduced meal applications. However, it is helpful to your school if you complete the income collection form available at ezmealapp.com. PDFs and hard copies are also available. Eligible families may qualify for benefits such as waived test fees.

While complete meals are FREE, single items like milk will still be charged to student accounts. Milk this year will be \$0.75. Other a la carte items such as frozen yogurt, baked chips, and whole grain cookies will be available for purchase most days in the school cafeterias. Prices on those items range from \$0.75-\$2.00. There is no charging of a la carte items; meaning students must have a positive account balance, or cash in hand in order to purchase.

Please sign up for an **ezschoolpay.com** account! This is an excellent way to monitor your childrens' meals and a la carte purchases. These accounts are free to set up and use; you can even set up email reminders for when a balance gets low! If you choose to use them for prepayment, a small fee is incurred with each transaction.

Please don't hesitate to contact us!

Kate Dorr
School Food Service Director/ Registered Dietitian
kdorr@oneida-boces.org
315-738-0848