

August 7th, 2017

Dear Parents,

We are writing to share changes that the United States Department of Agriculture has enacted regarding Pre-K requirements for the National School Lunch Program. These changes, which were put in effect at the start of the 2017-2018 school year, are the results of changing federal guidelines designed to be responsive to USDA concerns related to meal accessibility and nutrition.

The key changes to Pre-K meals are:

- Milk must be *unflavored* 1% or skim milk. Flavored milk is no longer allowed.
- All components of meals must be served at meal time for reimbursement.
 - This means that the cafeteria team is no longer able to reserve fruit from lunch to serve as an afternoon snack.
 - Parent may choose to send an individual snack; teacher may also share information regarding snack rotations and/or donations.
- This district's previous policy had been to offer versus serve, allowing students to choose meal components. Now, all students will be served all components of a meal.
- There are no longer vegetarian choices available for all children; however, vegetarian or vegan options can be provided to children with a dietary request signed by a parent.

Please reach out to the Nutrition Department at 404-802-1599 with further questions or concerns. We appreciate your patience as this change goes into effect.

Warmly,

Dr. Marilyn Hughes, Executive Director of Nutrition Department

Sydney Ahearn, Director of Early Learning