The Elmore County Public Schools Child Nutrition Program (CNP) is in compliance with the State Department of Education Wellness Guidelines. All meals served meet patterns established by the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Our goal is to assist in reducing the concerns of obesity in school age children while providing a nutritious meal. Students who need substitutions or special diets must have a Medical Statement/Diet Prescription form completed by a physician, which are available through the school nurse or the school office. Every school in Elmore County serves breakfast and lunch each operating day. Students who qualify may receive free or reduced price meals. Parents/Guardians may complete the Free and Reduced Meal Benefit Application at any time during the school year. Applications are available in the school office, CNP Office or Online (see below). All paper applications will be scanned for processing as the application arrives in the CNP Office. The CNP office is allowed 10 working days to process an application after it reaches the CNP office. Parents should be prepared to pay for meals until their child's application is processed and the cafeteria or parent is notified of the results. Incomplete applications will be returned through the students, so please follow the directions carefully to avoid any delays in processing.



	BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Paying Student	\$1.50	\$2.50
Reduced Price	.30	.40
BOE Employees	\$2.00	\$3.25
Visitor	\$2.50	\$4.00
Milk	.50	.50

Menus are provided monthly and can be found on the Elmore County Public Schools website under Child Nutrition. Menus are subject to change based on food availability. Students may purchase extra food items in each cafeteria. À la carte items and pricing vary among schools. No glass items or carbonated drinks are allowed in the school cafeteria. Foods and drinks brought into the cafeteria in competitive packaging, i.e. fast foods, are prohibited. A lunch number (POS#) is established for each student. Parents may pay for meals online at <a href="www.myschoolbucks.com">www.myschoolbucks.com</a>, or with cash or personal check: daily, weekly, or monthly.

## Check policy:

- 1. The total amount of the check will be deposited into your child's lunch account and cannot be used to pay for other school items such as field trips, library fees, etc.,
- 2. The Elmore County Child Nutrition Program recognizes that occasionally a parent may inadvertently overdraw a checking account and a check may be returned by your bank. In order to recover these funds in a private and professional manner, CNP has contracted with Nexcheck, LLC, for collection of returned checks.
  - a. Checks should be written on a commercially printed check with your name, address, and contact telephone number. When a person writes a check to a lunchroom he or she agrees that, if the check is returned for any reason, it may be represented electronically on the same account, and that the Service Fee for returned checks established by law may be debited from the same account.
  - b. If the check and fee are not collected electronically, Nexcheck will contact the check writer by mail and/or by telephone to make payment arrangements. All payments need to be made directly to Nexcheck, P.O. Box 19688, Birmingham, AL 35219. For a convenience fee, payments of both check and fee may be made electronically at www.nexcheck.com or over the phone (800-639-2435) using a credit card, debit card or electronic check.

## Charge policy: charge limit is \$12.50

- > When the \$12.50 limit is reached, the student will be sent to the office or to the principal to contact the parent/guardian. The student may also try to borrow from peers, if so desired.
- Elementary students and students with disabilities without money, who have reached the \$12.50 limit, will receive an alternate meal (either a turkey or cheese sandwich, fruit and milk for lunch and cereal at breakfast).
- Middle and High School students without money, who have reached the \$12.50 limit, will not receive a meal. They can borrow money from peers, if so desired.
- Managers print charge letters **weekly** showing the negative balance on the student's account. In addition to sending letters, the managers will contact parents by phone once the \$12.50 limit has been reached. If payment still has not been received, the managers will submit a list of names to the administration for assistance in collecting the charges.
- ➤ Cafeteria personnel will advise parents of online service, "My School Bucks" for setting up an account for their child. If you have questions concerning the charges, please call the CNP Office at (334) 567-1222 or toll free 1-844-685-9054.

MY SCHOOL BUCKS: An online service allowing parents access to their student's account AT NO CHARGE! More and more parents use online banking to pay bills so why not school meals. Eliminate those frantic phone calls from students saying they forgot their lunch money! 1) FREE-view your child's account balance and send money to the school accordingly, 2) FREE-receive emails when your child's balance gets to a certain amount (you set the amount), 3) \$2.49 fee-deposit funds electronically through My School Bucks; however, you can allocate funds to more than one student account per deposit. For additional information and instructions go to the <a href="https://www.myschoolbucks.com">www.myschoolbucks.com</a> website or call 855-832-5226. There is also a link to My School Bucks on Elmore County's website at <a href="https://www.elmoreco.com">www.elmoreco.com</a>. Please take advantage of this beneficial and convenient service!

ON-LINE APPLICATION: Parents may complete an application for Free and Reduced Meal Benefits online at <a href="https://www.myschoolapps.com">www.myschoolapps.com</a>. A link to the site is also located on Elmore County's website (<a href="https://www.elmoreco.com">www.elmoreco.com</a>) under Quick Links and under the Child Nutrition Section. Please follow the instructions for the application to be sent directly to the CNP office. You will receive a confirmation number once the application has been sent to our office. All precautions have been taken to make this process secure.