

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Crestwood Local Schools offers healthy meals every school day. Lunch cost: \$2.75 for grades 6-12 and \$2.50 for Grades K-5. Your children may qualify for free meals or reduced price meals. Reduced lunch price is \$.40.

- 1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. **Return the completed application to any Crestwood School building or Crestwood Board Office, Attn. Jennifer Bujak-Hirsch, Food Service Director, 4565 West Prospect St. Mantua, Ohio 44255.**
- 2. Who can get free meals?** Children in households getting Food Stamps or OWF and most foster children can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free price meals if your household income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Guidelines.
- 3. Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals?** Please call [school, homeless liaison or migrant coordinator] to see if your child(ren) qualify, if you have not been informed that they will get free meals.
- 4. Who can get reduced price meals?** Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Chart, as shown below.
- 5. Should I fill out an application if I got a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free or reduced price meals?** Please read the letter carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school if you have any questions.
- 6. I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out an application.
- 7. Will the information I give be checked?** Yes, we may ask you to send written proof.
- 8. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later?** Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start getting Food Stamps, OWF or other benefits. If you lose your job, your children may be able to get free or reduced price meals.
- 9. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application?** You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Teri Beck, Pupil Services, 4571 West Prospect St, Mantua, Ohio 44255, 330-274-2246 Ext. 2109.**
- 10. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
- 11. Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself and all children who live with you.
- 12. What if my income is not always the same?** List the amount that you normally get. For example, if you normally get \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get it only sometimes.
- 13. We are in the military; do we include our housing allowance as income?** If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. All other allowances must be included in your gross income.
- 14. Why do I have to write down my food stamp number for each child?** We must have proof that each child receives food stamps. This is why you must write a food stamp number down on the application beside the name of each child in the household who receives food stamps.

Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls within the limits on this chart.

If you have other questions, need help or would like an application mailed to you, please call 330-274-2294

Sincerely,

**Jennifer Bujak-Hirsch
Food Service Director**

FEDERAL INCOME CHART			
For School Year 2008-2009			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	19,240	1,604	370
2	25,900	2,159	499
3	32,560	2,714	627
4	39,220	3,269	755
5	45,880	3,824	883
6	52,540	4,379	1,011
7	59,200	4,934	1,139
8	65,860	5,489	1,267
Each additional person:	6,660	555	129

