



## Food Service FAQs

*Where can I find information about my school's lunch program?*

Menus - <https://readington.nutrislice.com/>

District Webpage - <https://www.readington.k12.nj.us/Page/254>

RMS - <https://www.readington.k12.nj.us/Page/256>

HBS - <https://www.readington.k12.nj.us/Page/257>

TBS - <https://www.readington.k12.nj.us/Page/258>

WHS - <https://www.readington.k12.nj.us/Page/259>

MySchoolBucks- <https://www.readington.k12.nj.us/Page/255>

*Who should I contact if I have a question about food ingredients or products?*

Labels for food products are searchable on Maschio's Food Services, Inc. website by [clicking here](#). The search function is helpful in easily identifying a food of interest.

Nutrition guidelines for school lunches are available by [clicking here](#). Our district participates in the National School Lunch Program, and must meet United States Department of Agriculture standards in products served. [Click here](#) to gain an understanding of the National School Lunch Program.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can also directly contact Maschio's Food Services, Inc. administration. Contact information for their Nutrition Team is [available here](#).

*Who should I contact if I want to provide feedback on the school's menu or food offerings?*

The best place to start is by contacting your school's cafeteria manager who prepares the food and helps with menu creation:

- RMS - Dori Taylor, [dtaylor@readington.k12.nj.us](mailto:dtaylor@readington.k12.nj.us), ext. 3501
- HBS – Kelly Young, [kyoung@readington.k12.nj.us](mailto:kyoung@readington.k12.nj.us), ext. 2051
- TBS – Amy McMillin, ext. 5104
- WHS – Dina Phillips, ext. 4109

Further, the district holds an annual food service advisory meeting with a group of students and certain adults to obtain direct feedback for future program offerings. If you are interested in joining these meetings when scheduled, please email Katie DeRiso at [kderiso@readington.k12.nj.us](mailto:kderiso@readington.k12.nj.us). She will contact you when scheduled.

Lastly, you may also contact your building's Principal who can suggest modifications to menu offerings or prohibit specific items from being sold in the cafeteria.

*If my child has an allergy, how is that documented to ensure s/he does not purchase a product that contains the allergen?*

The nurse in each school is responsible for allergy documentation and dissemination in the building along with the Principal's office. If your child has an allergy, it is recommended you contact the school nurse or Principal's office directly as well as [complete this form](#).

Protocols followed by Maschio's Food Services, Inc. staff are [detailed here](#)., and any questions can be directed to Lorraine Kunick at [lkunick@maschiofood.com](mailto:lkunick@maschiofood.com).

A safe menu would be prepared by a registered dietitian, with food stored/prepared separately to avoid any cross-contamination. The cafeteria manager would have the student's name on file, and there are prompts on the register to avoid any improper purchasing that could result in a life-threatening emergency. Further, the schools provide safe eating areas for students with allergies. The school nurse and building Principal provide relevant information to all necessary staff members to ensure adherence to protocols for safety reasons.

*If I do not wish for my child to purchase snacks during this time while lunch is free or if I wish to restrict the purchase of certain food items, is there a way I can notify the food service employees?*

The best place to start is by contacting your school's cafeteria manager:

- RMS - Dori Taylor, [dtaylor@readington.k12.nj.us](mailto:dtaylor@readington.k12.nj.us), ext. 3501
- HBS – Kelly Young, [kyoung@readington.k12.nj.us](mailto:kyoung@readington.k12.nj.us), ext. 2051
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There are prompts on register that can be created to flag parent requests to Maschio's Food Services, Inc. staff. The cafeteria managers get to know students over the course of the year and will do their best to help.

Parents can also monitor independently food purchased by their child(ren) on [MySchoolBucks.com](http://MySchoolBucks.com), and if a problem is recurring in nature a parent can contact Katie DeRiso at [kderiso@readington.k12.nj.us](mailto:kderiso@readington.k12.nj.us).

*Why is my child being told to take the full meal if s/he simply wants to buy milk or juice?*

The United States Department of Agriculture has strict requirements for meals in order to make them free. Maschio's Food Services, Inc. and the district understand the vast majority of students and staff do not fully understand the criteria demanded by the program, so cafeteria staff provide friendly reminders to students that appear to not have brought lunch from home and are attempting to purchase a complete meal.

If a child does not take all of the necessary components required by the United States Department of Agriculture, the federal government will not reimburse the district the cost of the meal. Further, the item(s) desired by the student will be chargeable to the parent.

How to make a meal free – [click here](#)

*What can my child purchase as an a la carte item and what are the prices?*

Each school creates a menu independently of the other schools tailored to the desires of the students, staff and community. Similarly, a la carte items will vary from school to school. Examples that might be offered are bottled water, extra pizza slices, ice cream, pretzel, chips, cookies, etc.

Most a la carte items are listed on the below link including associated pricing:

- RMS – [click here](#)
- HBS – [click here](#)
- TBS – [click here](#)
- WHS – [click here](#)

If you have concerns with any specific a la carte offerings in your schools, please contact your school's cafeteria manager as a first step. See contact information on page 1 above.

*When I am notified of a negative balance on my account, will it tell me what my child has purchased?*

Parents can view what their child(ren) have purchased at anytime in real-time by going onto [MySchoolBucks.com](http://MySchoolBucks.com).

[Policy 8550 Outstanding Food Service Charges](#) contains the protocols for addressing student(s) with negative balances. Normally, when an account is in arrears, the student(s) will continue to receive lunch and their account will be charged accordingly. The Principal or designee shall contact the student's parent to provide notice of the amount in arrears and shall provide the parent a period of ten school days to pay the full amount due. If the student's parent does not make full payment to the Principal or designee by the end of the ten school days, the Principal or designee shall again contact the student's parent to provide a second notice that their child's breakfast or lunch bill is in arrears. If payment in full is not made within one week from the date of the second notice, the student will be provided an alternate lunch, as applicable, that will contain the essentials in balanced nutritional selections as required by the United States Department of Agriculture. Additional measures will be undertaken to assist the parent including offering free/reduced application for future meals so child(ren) obtain at no cost or reduced cost. Designees assigned by the Principal typically include, but are not limited to, the school cafeteria manager, business office staff, or other school staff such as school counselor or the nurse.

*How do I apply for free or reduced meals?*

Our district encourages any and all parents that need assistance to submit a free and reduced lunch application to the district. If a family qualifies, student(s) may receive assistance well beyond free or reduced meals. Assistance in school supplies, field trips, chromebook fees, programs sponsored by the HSA, among others are available. For any questions relating to financial assistance, please contact Katie DeRiso at [kderiso@readington.k12.nj.us](mailto:kderiso@readington.k12.nj.us) or ext. 2895.