



*Visitation Inter-Parish School
exists to create a Catholic learning environment
that nurtures the total person in a family-like atmosphere.*

Friday, May 7, 2010

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Teachers:

Last night at the School Board meeting, it was decided that the monthly charge for lunch per child for ten months for the 2010-2011 school year will be \$45; that comes to \$450/child per year. One hundred seventy-two school lunches are served per year. Next year the charge per lunch will be \$2.60. The lunch bill is to be paid at the beginning of the month or earlier. Our lunch program is designed to be self-supporting with no profit margin. The School Board can consider an adjustment in the amount charged the last months of the year next spring if the data shows that we are charging too much.

We have been closely monitoring costs and pinching pennies where possible. On the reverse side of this letter is the Visitation Lunch Program 2009-2010 Projected Profit/Loss Statement. We receive the federal reimbursement check about two months after the month in which the lunches were served. Please note that we began the year with \$2,223.02 in the bank, which is not shown on the 2009-2010 Projected Profit/Loss Report. Our costs this year were \$32,044.61, and our income this school year is projected at \$29,698.03, not including the \$2,223.02 that was in the bank. It looks as though we will end the 2009-2010 year in the hole approximately \$123.56, with no cushion in the bank for starting next school year.

We are blessed in having a dedicated, dependable, great cook who leads our lunch program with expertise! She knows and understands the regulations and requirements. Our program passes Health Department and Department of Elementary and Secondary Education inspections with ease. The students are served healthy lunches and reasonable choices. Our graduates talk about how wonderful Visitation lunches were. Other schools contact us to see how Mrs. Hale does things.

We receive benefits from the government, including reimbursements and commodities, which increase a lot for each student who qualifies for free or reduced lunch. The application form will be sent home in August. I cannot send those forms out in the May registration packets. It would be helpful if all families completed one of the application forms and sent it back in in a sealed envelope to me or Mrs. Kleffner. That income information is kept confidential. The number of students who qualify affects the amount of benefits in the lunch program and in other programs.

It is important that each student in the school participate in the school lunch program in order for the program to remain viable. But much more importantly, each student needs good nutrition to stay healthy, happy, and ready to learn. We have not begun a breakfast program and have no plans to do so because we trust that our parents will cover that at home before they start their work day.

Remember that if you are concerned about being able to afford a Catholic education for your children, it is important to discuss this with Msgr. Makarewicz.

If you have questions, please contact me. Thank you for your support of the lunch program.

Principal Linda Stuckenschneider