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August 18, 2017



Beth Dever
Chief School Business Official
deverb@avoca37.org

Dear Avoca Parents/Guardians:

I am writing to introduce you to our new food service provider, Quest Food Management Services, Inc. Their program will provide fresh food options with most items cooked from scratch. They have thousands of menu options that will bring variety and excitement to our menus. We will be able to offer a vegetarian option on a daily basis at both schools. They will also provide some healthy grab and go options for all students. Marie Murphy students will enjoy some options that are assemble-to-order items similar to quick serve restaurants. Avoca West students will have more choices available and access to a fruit and vegetable bar. We are excited to offer a program that will better meet the expectations of our students, staff and parents. Margaret Black is our new food service manager. She is excited to meet all of you this fall. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Margaret at 847-728-4115 or at blackm@avoca37.org.

In addition to making menu improvements, we have also been working on ways to speed up the lunch line. We have purchased a new POS(Point of Sale) system for Avoca West. We are going to start the year using a scanner for grades K-2. The students will need to tell the cashier their name and the cashier will scan their name and PIN number to bring up their account and charge for the items they are purchasing. We will evaluate after a month or so if we should continue this practice with K-2 only or open it up to other grades as well.

We will continue to use Mealtime as our food service software. Mealtime processes payments into your food service account and provides access to see what your child is purchasing. Please keep your account balance positive so your child can participate in our program. Payments can be made by check or online. We do not accept cash in the lunch line. If you are paying by check, please submit your check to the school office or your child's teacher. Checks should be made out to Avoca School District No. 37. You can pay online at <https://www.mymealtime.com/SignIn.aspx>. There is a 4.9% processing charge for payments made online. If you have any questions about Mealtime, please contact Kathi Meinzer at 847-251-3587 or at meinzerk@avoca37.org. We will be sending account statements out in the next week so you can see your balance and remind your child what their PIN number is. I have attached Quest's Food Philosophy, menus for August/September, a price list and planograms of the Avoca West and Marie Murphy serving lines for your reference.

Finally, I want to thank the parents and staff members that have served on the Avoca Food Service Committee over the past few years. They have spent many hours working to improve our program by sharing their thoughts and observations, reviewing parent and staff food service survey results, discussing what items should and shouldn't be sold and doing several site visits in order to find a food service partner that meets our needs.

We hope you enjoy the rest of your summer break and look forward to seeing you and your child in a few weeks!!

Sincerely,

Beth Dever
Chief School Business Official
Avoca West School
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847•724•6800

*"The Mission of the Avoca School District
is to maximize the unique potential
of each child we serve."*

Marie Murphy School
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