VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J



March 23, 2017

Dear Parent:

The Vernonia School District continues to use Mealtime as its computerized system for purchasing meals.

Through Mealtime students have accounts that are utilized to deposit funds for meals and/or a la carte purchases. Deposited funds can be used to purchase breakfast, lunch, milk or a la carte items. The system helps to minimize theft and loss, and also protects the anonymity and confidentiality of students who qualify for free or reduced meals.

In an effort to speed up meal service and offer privacy and convenience, students may opt to use a finger scan to identify themselves and use deposited funds for meal purchases. This system offers complete privacy and use of the device is 100% optional. If a student does not wish to participate, they will still be able to access their account and participate in the meal program using their name or student ID number to identify themselves.

The system does not store an image or photo of the student's fingerprint. The scanner examines a few points of a fingerprint and generates unique numbers based on those points to create a secure key called a "string". Only the string value is retained for reference back to the student. These numbers cannot be converted into an actual fingerprint image; fingerprints cannot be regenerated or reproduced for any purpose.

For additional information concerning the scanners, feel free to visit the vendor's website: "www.digitalpersona.com" to see how this product is used by fast food restaurants, hospitals and high tech companies around the world. For information about the meal service system, visit www.mealtimeclm.com.

Also please note that our district-wide policy is that no more than two meals can be charged to the account of a middle or high school student (a total of \$5.60 and \$6.00, respectively), and no more than three for an elementary school student (a total of \$7.50). Elementary students who exceed the charge limit will receive a PBJ sandwich and milk, while middle and high school students will receive crackers and milk.

The system also keeps track of how your student is spending their deposited funds and requests to view a student's account history can be made at any time at the Vernonia Schools office. Statements are sent home weekly via email, and monthly via a paper copy, to inform parents of low or negative balances. If you have not provided your email address to the school during our registration process, please send it to rlennen@vernonia.k12.or.us.

If you have any questions regarding the changes outlined in this letter, please contact Superintendent Miller at 503-429-5891. If you have questions regarding the National School Lunch Program or to request an application, please call Gretchen Lindauer at 503-429-1333.

Sincerely,

Aaron Miller Superintendent/Principal

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