

AMORY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MR. TONY COOK

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

124 NORTH MAIN STREET

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August 2, 2013

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to school! As our new year begins, I want to share with you some of the services we offer through our on-line payment system and on-line free and reduced price lunch applications.

The on-line payment system can be accessed through our Child Nutrition Website www.amorypanthercafe.com. You will need to contact the Child Nutrition office to receive the access code for your child. Simply call 662-256-3576 and speak with Rhonda Ginn or email her at rginn@amory.k12.ms.us. Rhonda will walk you through the process of getting set up to take advantage of this service. Through the on-line payment system you will be able to monitor your child's cafeteria account balance and make payments by Check, Debit card or Credit card. There is a nominal fee for each payment transaction, however; there is not a fee to check your child's account balance. You will be given the fee amounts in the set up process.

The on-line free and reduced meal applications may also be accessed through your Child Nutrition Website. You will find on the Home page a link to on-line applications. Click and follow the instructions.

The Amory Panther Café website can be very helpful to parents and students alike. Menus for each school are posted there each month as well nutrition information, contact information for the district office and each school cafeteria. You will also find each school cafeteria manager's photo and phone numbers listed.

As a part of a nationwide effort to improve student health, The Amory School District Food Service will implement the updated nutrition standards that are a key part of the 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act. The new USDA Nutrition Standards will build on the positive changes we have been making for years. We will continue to offer a wide variety of fruits and vegetables, as well as whole grain breads and low fat or fat free milk. We recognize the critical connection between good health and success in the classroom. We know that children who are well nourished are better able to concentrate and learn in the classroom.

Should your child require a special diet, please contact the School Food Service Office for the correct forms that your doctor will need to complete. These forms must be filled out and returned to the cafeteria manager each school year. **The diets will not be altered until the new form is completed by your doctor and returned to the cafeteria manager.**

Students must have an application approved and on file to receive Free or Reduced Price meals. These applications must have been filled out after July 29, 2013. If you have not completed the new application, one is enclosed in this packet for your convenience. Reminder: Only one application per family is required – all of your children can be listed on one application. The color of the new application for this school year is **BLUE**. **No other color application will be accepted.** Also, please make sure that you complete all required fields on the application (which include your signature and social security number at the bottom of the application). Applications not completed will be returned to you and can delay processing.

Meal prices for students this year will be as follows: (Full Price: Lunch \$2.75; Breakfast \$1.50 and Reduced Price: Lunch \$.40 and Breakfast \$.30). Adult meals for this year will be \$3.50 for lunch and \$2.00 for breakfast. Please note that our School Board Policy is that **NO MEALS ARE ALLOWED TO BE CHARGED.** Please think of your child's account as a "bank" account. Any money that is placed (or deposited) in your child's account remains there and is deducted as food purchases are made. We encourage you to place extra money in your child's account for any extra foods that they may wish to purchase. This will help to avoid problems that may arise due to our no charge policy. Any questions or problems regarding your child's account may be directed to the cafeteria manager at your child's school. I have listed the manger's name and phone numbers below for your convenience. And you can also find this information on our website, www.amorypanthercafe.com.

Again, our office is available for any questions or problems you may have. We look forward to serving you this school year. Welcome back and have a great year!

Sincerely,

Steve Stockton, Food Service Administrator

<u>School</u>	<u>Manager</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
West Amory	Debra Pruitt	256-4480
East Amory	Deborah Smith	257-9989
Amory Middle	Annette Dykes	256-4917
Amory High	Rita Vaughan	256-1448