

Dear Parent Leaders:

I am proud to let you know that our district has already made a progressive leap toward promoting student wellness and providing a new level of convenience to parents by implementing the **MealpayPlus** system throughout our schools. This year, we are committed and dedicated to increasing parent participation and usage to gain maximum benefit from our MealpayPlus system.

At no cost, MealpayPlus allows any family to:

- Create a free, secured account to **manage all of your student's accounts**
- **Check your student's current account balance**
- **Monitor** the items your student has been purchasing in the cafeteria
- Create settings to **receive email notifications** when the account reaches a low balance

For a small program fee, MealpayPlus allows any family to:

- **Make a prepayment** into your student's meal account using a check, credit card, or debit card at **www.mealpayplus.com** or by calling **866-661-1386**! Funds deposited through MealpayPlus are usually available for student use within a matter of minutes. This feature eliminates the need to send a check to school or worry about lost or forgotten lunch money.
- Create settings to **automatically replenish** your student's account when it reaches a low balance

Increasing parent usage has several benefits for our district as well, including those listed below:

- As more students use the system for prepayment, our administrative and accounting staff are faced with less work in terms of managing meal accounts.
- Increased usage of this system generates more revenue for our district
- As more students prepay, this creates faster serving lines, and builds stronger relationships with the families that we serve, as they appreciate the information and convenience we provide.

As we focus on increasing usage this school year, I hope that you will join us and spread the word throughout your organization. As a parent leader, you are instrumental in helping to communicate regarding the resources available to parents, and I encourage you to talk with other parents regarding the benefits of MealpayPlus. Please use the attached list of ideas for ways to help communicate with other parents. We consistently strive to find new and better ways to serve our students and our families, and I thank you for partnering with us in this effort.

Kent City School District



Ideas for Parent Leadership

- Include the attached **newsletter information** in your newsletters, email blasts, etc. Include the website link (**www.mealpayplus.com**) on materials you distribute.
- Make copies of the **attached flyer** and distribute during meetings. Consider making announcements during meetings.
- Invite your district's Food Service Director or your school's cafeteria manager** to speak at a meeting about ways that parents can effectively partner with schools to make student wellness a priority.
- Give **workshops for parents** on 'How to Talk to Your Student About Nutrition'. Contact Ashley Freeman at afreeman@horizonsoftware.com for suggestions.