



HOT LUNCH

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I know my child will like the lunch? In the past two years, we have enjoyed an overwhelmingly positive response to the Hot Lunch Program, a record we will strive to continue. The lunch menus are selected with kids and nutrition in mind. Each day, there will be a hot item, a vegetarian option (if there is a meat dish), soup, a salad bar and a sandwich option. Many dishes are prepared with individual tastes and/or needs in mind, like offering sauces on the side. Your child should have no problem finding something fresh and yummy to eat each day!

My child is a vegetarian. What will s/he eat? When a meat dish is offered, there is a vegetarian option for the hot plate, as well as a fully stocked salad bar, soup (often vegetarian) and sandwich option.

How do I know the food will be both tasty and nutritious? Ellen Tussman is an experienced caterer with many years experience preparing food. She uses fresh ingredients, tried and true recipes, and continually responds to the feedback our students and staff provide. Menus are selected with the nutritional needs of kids in mind.

What do I do about lunch when my child is scheduled to be on a field trip? Hot lunch is served every school day between 11:30 and 12:30pm. No lunch, credit or special arrangement is provided for students off campus during the lunch hour. This includes students who are out sick, at an appointment, or off campus to attend a field trip, play rehearsal or any other event. If a field trip or other event is organized where kids will be away from campus during lunch, parents should send a bagged lunch.

If my child misses lunch, will I be refunded for the day? There are no refunds for missed lunches for illness, appointments, field trips, scheduled rehearsals, or any other reason. The cooks are planning for and will be on campus preparing the food whether or not your student eats that day.

How will you track who is signed up for hot lunch and who isn't? Teachers and the lunch staff will receive a list of lunch participants at the beginning of the year, and updates as needed. Kids who are not signed up for the lunch program and fail to bring a lunch from home will receive a hot lunch ticket and eat that day. If this happens a second time, parents will be billed \$7 for the lunch provided. To avoid abuse of the Hot Lunch Program, subsequent lunches will be billed at \$12 per lunch.

Is there a discounted rate for siblings? The pricing of the lunch program is minimally designed to cover the cost of running the program. There is no discount offered for enrolling siblings.

Are there options if my child just wants hot lunch every now and then? The 2013-2014 Hot Lunch Program is a full-time lunch program. Lunch will be prepared and served to participants every day school is in session from September 3rd through June 11th. This will benefit all participants by reducing

or eliminating lunch lines, and increases the sustainability of the program by increasing efficiency and reducing waste.

Where will lunch be served and eaten? Lunch is served in and behind the Magnolia Building. Kids eat outdoors in nice weather, and return to their classrooms on rainy days.

How will I know my child actually eats lunch? Staff on lunch duty monitor the younger grades (kindergarten and 1st grades). These kids are expected to stay seated for 15 minutes, and have their lunch checked to ensure they have eaten an adequate amount of food before being excused from lunch.

My child's friend won't be getting hot lunch. Will they be able to eat together? Yes, all kids will eat lunch together and at the same time, regardless of whether they get hot lunch or bring a lunch from home.

What are the benefits of Park Day's hot lunch program? Beyond being a delicious and nutritious option to the bagged lunch, a hot lunch program at Park Day furthers our green school commitment, increasing our focus on sustainability and giving us an opportunity to close the loop in the "seed to table" cycle.

Specifically, it:

- Reduces waste – By using washable dishes and cutlery from the kitchen, there is minimal waste. Food scraps become compost for our Park Day chickens and worms.
- Saves time – No time spent shopping for and/or making lunches.
- Does away with lunch boxes – No more money wasted on reusable lunch containers that eventually get moldy or are left in the lost and found.
- Helps keep it local – We're able to order fresh, local organic produce (when possible) through the family of farms we've connected with for the Park Day Farm Box.
- Builds community – Sharing food is one of the ways we connect. Sitting down to a hot lunch together provides additional opportunities for connections between students, particularly in the upper grades.
- Gives Park Day a competitive advantage – The hot lunch program, and completing the "seed to table" cycle, is an opportunity for Park Day to stand out among East Bay independent schools. A fully enrolled Park Day School benefits each one of us.