

Food is provided on field trips that extend over a normal lunch period. Scholars should not bring food onto the bus. If the scholar has a special dietary requirement, please notify the teacher and the scholar's food will be marked and kept with the field trip lunches.

Food Services

To reach the meal coordinator 602-343-3040 #5

Breakfast/Lunch

Breakfast begins at 7:00am and ends at 7:50am each morning. **Scholars arriving after 7:50am will not be served breakfast.**

School lunches will be paid this year according to your eligibility, including milk. Milk a la carte is an additional 25 cents.

Breakfasts and lunches may be paid daily, weekly, or monthly. Your scholar must have money in their account to receive breakfast or a hot lunch, so please budget accordingly. Severe negative balances left unpaid may result in your child being provided an alternative meal each day until payment arrangements are made. We will send out bi-weekly statements in your scholar's backpack.

As part of the National School Lunch program, the school offers lunches free or at a reduced price. Free and reduced lunch applications are available in the office, on our website (<https://www.paideiaacademy.com/families/breakfast-lunch-menu/>) or you can email Mrs. Melody Mugica, mmugica@paideiamail.com. Only one application is required per family. Upon completion, we will inform you immediately of your eligibility status.

Prices for the Breakfast, lunch, snack and dinner will be determined at a later date. You will receive an email and the prices will be posted on our webpage.

Free/Reduced Meal Application

We ask all families to complete the Free/Reduced Meal Application. This enables families to receive discounts to after-school programs and discounts on college entrance exams, and other benefits. Forms are available at the front office in both buildings. Upon completion, we will inform you immediately of your eligibility status.

Meals/Food Brought from Home

Paideia *cannot accommodate meals that require heating or reheating*. Scholars sent with a home-provided meal must be ready for them to eat without requiring additional preparations.

Snacks – Help your child do well at school!

Can your children's diet help them do better in school? You bet! Research shows that what you eat is one of the most powerful influences on everyday brain skills. We encourage families to send healthy snacks to school with their scholars. We allow healthy snacks to be eaten sometime between breakfast and lunch and/or before the end of the day. Snacks are an essential part of the learning day!

Nutrition research shows that ***eating small portions*** between breakfast and lunch and then between lunch and dinner is beneficial to overall health. We have found that several parents send healthy snacks to school with their scholars. We applaud you!

Healthy Snacks are Encouraged: Unhealthy snacks, such as highly processed foods– (Doritos, Takis, Cheetos) and high sugars snacks (candy, “sports” drinks, sugar drinks) are high in sugar, fat, sodium, dangerous preservatives and other additives. Read the ingredient list – if you can’t pronounce the ingredients, don’t eat it! We **discourage** these types of junk foods in the classroom with your scholars.

The following is a short list of very healthy snacks that will benefit the health and learning of your students.

- Fresh fruit such as apple slices
- Yogurt
- Trail Mix with nuts, seeds, and dried fruit.
- Fresh vegetables such as red peppers, broccoli, carrots, celery
- Whole wheat snacks such as pretzels, crackers and cheese

Nut allergy alert – please notify your scholar’s teacher with a doctor’s note of any nut allergies.

Vending Machine Policy: Elementary Scholars are ***NOT*** allowed to purchase or consume vending machine products during the school day. Please do not send money for vending machine items. This machine is designated for Paideia staff only.

Gifted Program

Arizona State defines a gifted pupil as a pupil who has scored at or above the 97th percentile in one area, or a combination of verbal, nonverbal or quantitative reasoning areas, on a state approved test.

Gifted Scholar Definition:

- A scholar who has been identified as gifted by another district or charter school
- A scholar who has scored at or above the 95th percentile on a state approved test in one or more areas- verbal, nonverbal or quantitative
- A scholar who has scored above the 90th percentiles on a state approved test in one or more areas- verbal, nonverbal or quantitative AND has supportive documentation including, but not limited to:
 - Gifted characteristic checklist
 - Creativity checklist
 - Above the 90th percentile in AIMSweb assessments
 - Above the 90th percentile in NWEA/MAP scores
 - Reading fluency and comprehension 2 years or more above grade level
 - Shows mastery of above level math concepts based on a comprehensive end-of-year grade level math assessment
 - Exceeding grade level standards (grades ES or 4)