

September 25, 2006

Dear Parents & Students

Recently, the Holmdel Township School District and Chartwells School Dining Services have implemented a new computerized POS (point of sale/debit) system. The new system benefits you, your child, and the district in the following ways:

- Assures parents that money given to the student is used for a food purchase.
- Eliminates the need for students to carry cash on a daily basis.
- Increases the speed of the serving lines (once the staff and students complete the learning phase), and gives students more time to eat and enjoy their lunch break.

Each student will have a PIN (personal identification number) and a picture identification assigned to him or her. When a student enters his or her PIN into the pin pad at the lunch line, their student information including their picture appears on the screen for the cashier to view. (Pictures will be downloaded from the school's picture database). The picture will prevent another student from using your child's account. The cost of the food purchase will automatically be deducted from the account without the need of cash. When there is a low balance threshold (approximately 3 meals remaining), a memo will be given to students reminding them that the account needs to be replenished.

All students will have an established debit account, although you are not required to make advanced payments, the system can accept cash payments on a daily basis.

Please note that this system is very confidential and secure. Every student will be required to enter his or her PIN regardless of meal status, thus insuring your child's privacy. Also, all students will be required to enter their PIN whether they are paying cash or have money on account. In addition, parents may request dietary restrictions that can be entered into the system, which will be displayed when the student's PIN is entered. The dietary restrictions will be monitored by the food service staff at the point of service for compliance.

There is no limit on the amount of money that can be deposited into your child's debit account. For safety purposes, we recommend that advanced payments be made with a check or money order payable to "Holmdel BOE Food Service Fund", and submitted to the cashier at the end of the food service line. We also recommend a minimum payment of \$25.00.

In the future, there will be a web site available for you to view your child's account activity. We are very excited about this project and hope you will take advantage of all the convenient options.

Sincerely,

*Holmdel Board of Education and Chartwells School Dining Services*