



2018-2019 KSD Lunch Program Frequently Asked Questions

Who runs the school lunch program?

The KSPTA contracts with Good Earth Natural Foods on behalf of the Kentfield School District. Good Earth prepares and delivers hot lunches to both of the schools. Teams of parent volunteers work alongside 2 Good Earth employees to serve the hot lunch to students at Bacich and Kent. The KSPTA receives a portion of the proceeds from each lunch to fund various student, parent and teacher programs at Bacich and Kent.

The lunch program is also required to be in compliance with standards mandated by the Department of Education, and are routinely inspected on-site by a Marin County Environmental Health inspector.

How are Good Earth lunches made and served?

Good Earth organic school lunches are locally prepared in Good Earth's facility in Novato, and delivered to the schools each day. Parent volunteers and Good Earth employees serve to each student's preferences as they come through the line. In compliance with Marin County food handling procedures, only Good Earth employees serve meat items. Parent volunteers serve all non-meat items. In addition to the hot entree, students choose from a selection of seasonal, organic fruit and/or vegetables, a freshly tossed Caesar salad, and 1% organic milk.

Portion sizes are in compliance with guidelines mandated by the Department of Education.

The Good Earth lunch program is very popular at both of our campuses; parent volunteers and Good Earth employees work hard to ensure every student is served a delicious, organic meal to his/her preference as efficiently as possible. As diligently as all the servers work, there are occasions when the line for lunch can get long. This is certainly the case at the beginning of a new lunch trimester when new students and/or new menu items are introduced. We ask that students bring their patience, inside voices, and quiet bodies to the lunch line!

Are there vegetarian or gluten-free options?

A vegetarian option is offered each day. When ordering your lunch online, menu items that are vegetarian or gluten-free are called out.

What is the food like?

This is a sample menu for the coming 2018-2019 school year. Menus are subject to change every trimester, largely based on menu seasonality, Good Earth availability, and parent and student feedback.

Monday - Pasta Day

Penne pasta with choice of marinara sauce, turkey meatballs, or pesto and parmesan cheese. Includes salad, fruit, vegetable and organic 1% milk.

Tuesday - Taco Tuesday

Soft flour tortilla (or g-f corn) with choice of beans, rice, ground turkey, pico de gallo, cheese, and sour cream. Includes salad, fruit, vegetable, and organic 1% milk.

Thursday - Breakfast for Lunch

Gluten-free waffle, chicken-apple sausage, vegetarian quiche, and breakfast potatoes. Includes salad, fruit, vegetable, and organic 1% milk.

Friday - Stefano's Pizza

Cheese or Pepperoni pizza, salad, fruit, vegetable, and organic 1% milk.

What is the cost per meal?

\$6.50 includes organic, locally-sourced entree, fruit, vegetable, salad, and 1% milk.

When can I sign up for Good Earth Hot Lunch?

The lunch program is offered in three terms: Fall, Winter, and Spring. The Fall lunch term begins on Monday, September 17th, 2018. The deadline for signing up for the first trimester is Sunday, September 16th, 2018. Sign-ups for the following trimesters is typically 2 weeks before the start of the next trimester. Reminders to sign up are sent by email, hard copy fliers, and signage across both schools.

- Fall Session: September 17th, 2018 – November 9th, 2018
- Winter Session: November 12th, 2018 - March 8th, 2019
- Spring Session: March 11th, 2019 - June 7th, 2019*

*Note that the last day of the lunch program is June 7th, 2019, one week before the last week of school. The last day of school is June 14th, 2019. Children that qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program receive lunch on all school days.

How do I sign up for Good Earth lunches?

Click [HERE](#) to be taken to the Good Earth website. You will see the daily menus and links to registration and payment pages.

Lunch can be purchased by the day of the week, for the entire trimester. This allows for students to eat as few as one day a week, or parents can opt to purchase up to 4 days a week that lunch is offered (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday).

What if I sign-up for lunch, and my student doesn't like the food?

Refunds are offered in these instances. Please contact office.sl@genatural.com

Can I get a refund if my student misses school due to illness or a field trip?

No refunds will be given for missed days of school. In the event of illness, a family member is welcome to pick up a to-go lunch. Please come at lunch time between 12 - 1:00 to pick up your student's lunch. No lunch is provided for field trips. Parents need to pack a lunch from home if the students are not scheduled to return to school before lunch time. Field trips are scheduled through the year so refunds are not available for field trips.

Can my student get a second serving if he/she is still hungry?

Unfortunately, second portions are not permitted per nutrition standards set by the Department of Education. Additionally, the school lunch program has limited extra servings and we must have enough for all students enrolled in the program.

What if my child is not enrolled in the hot lunch program, but forgets his/her lunch from home?

We are unable to provide additional meals to non-lunch program students on an ad-hoc basis, as food quantities provided are based on the number of students enrolled on a given day. If a student asks for a meal, and all students already enrolled in the hot lunch program have already been served, the lunch volunteers *may* be able to provide a lunch provided there is enough food available. The names and grades of students provided an extra meal will be noted and given to Good Earth, who will contact the parents to discuss lunch program sign up and payment.

Can families apply to the Free and Reduced Lunch Program (FRLP)?

Yes. All students in the Kentfield School District are offered the same lunch provided by Good Earth, including students who qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. To apply, please contact the appropriate school office. Bacich: 415-925-9220, Kent: 415-458-5970.

Can Transitional Kindergartners (TK) and Kindergartners get hot lunch?

No. Bacich Elementary does not serve lunch to TK/K grades because their school day is over by 12:30/1:10pm, respectively. However, students who qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program receive lunch through that program. TK and Kindergartners that qualify for the FRL Program will have his/her lunch delivered to his/her classroom.

I am having trouble getting the website to work, what should I do?

First, try a different web browser. If you are using Chrome and are having trouble, try IE or Firefox and vice versa. If that doesn't work, make sure you have Java enabled on your browser. You can also enroll using your iPhone. If you still have trouble, contact Good Earth and they can troubleshoot with you.

Who to contact with website technology and ordering issues?

office.sl@genatural.com

Who to contact with questions or suggestions about the lunch program?

Please contact the appropriate KSPTA's Lunch VPs:

KSPTA Lunch VP, Bacich:

Vicki Song, sonusong@gmail.com

KSPTA Lunch VP, Kent:

Joselyn Christesen, jchristesen15@gmail.com

How can I help support the Hot Lunch Program?

Volunteers are essential to our program! We cannot provide hot, organic lunches 4x a week across two school campuses without the generous time and support of our parent community. If you or another family member/nanny can help us, the volunteer commitment is twice a month, with times varying depending on school and day of week (from 11:45-1:10 at Bacich, and 12-1pm at Kent). To sign-up to volunteer for lunch or if you have questions about the volunteer program, contact the Lunch VPs for either school:

KSPTA Lunch VP, Bacich:

Vicki Song, sonusong@gmail.com.

KSPTA Lunch VP, Kent:

Joselyn Christesen, jchristesen15@gmail.com