



# Lunch Tips for Students

## Shelby County Schools Child Nutrition Program (CNP)



1. **Entering Lunch Numbers:** After your student goes through the serving line, they will punch in their 5 digit lunch number into the keypad. Please practice this number with your student. Think of creative fun ways to post their number around the house and give them lots of opportunities to see, say, write, touch, or even EAT the numbers (number shaped cookies). Practice “punching in” the number with a large calculator/cash register/keypad. This skill is equally as important as remembering the code.
2. **Carrying the Lunch Tray:** The Child Nutrition Program (CNP) uses trays like the one pictured. Similar trays can be purchased at Walmart or Target. It’s a good idea to start practicing now! Have your student carry their lunch or dinner from the kitchen to the table. You can even start with pretend food in the beginning. Kids love this and you will be surprised at how “into it” they get!
3. **Opening the Milk Carton:** This can be difficult for Kindergarteners if they haven’t had experience opening cartons. Break it down into steps and practice. Milk/juice cartons can be found at the grocery store or gas stations. After drinking, clean it out and use it as a practice carton.
4. **Lunch accounts are set up at the beginning of the year. Parents may deposit money into their child’s account by:**
  - Sending a check with your student.
  - Sending cash with your student. Please exercise caution when sending cash with students.
  - Paying online with a credit card by using [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Convenience fee applies.

Breakfast costs \$1.25 elementary / \$1.25 middle & high; lunch costs \$2.00 elementary / \$2.25 middle & high. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. If your student is approved for meal benefits this includes both breakfast and lunch.



*Additional information can be found on our website:*

<http://www.shelbyed.k12.al.us/cnp.htm>