



Westerville City Schools

Department of Purchasing and Logistics

Karisa Dennis, DTR; Manager of Food Services and Purchasing

125 E. Walnut St., Westerville, OH 43081
Main Office (614) 797-5993 Fax (614) 797-5951

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Dear Parents:

The Food Service Department is excited to announce that we are in the process of implementing state of the art identification equipment that will provide security for your child's meal account, eliminate clerical errors, provide students with more time to eat their lunch, and provide students an easy way to identify themselves when entering the school and using the cafeteria Point-of-Sale system.

What About My Child's Privacy?

This form of identification is called Biometrics, which when translated, means measurements of human characteristics. The software scans the finger for identification. **It does not store a copy of the fingerprints.** Biometric measurements are used to create this enrollment, however, they are converted to something else entirely ... "A Number." This template is then stored in the school's database with the same high level of security of all of your child's school records. When your child graduates or is no longer enrolled in this school system, the templates are deleted. **At no time is a fingerprint image stored.** No fingerprints can be recreated or delivered to any agency – governmental or otherwise.

How Does Finger Scanning Work?

The software scans the fingerprint to create and store individual templates of unique points that identify each student. When we enroll a finger, we take a variable amount of measurements and the style of the fingerprint. These measures and style of fingerprint are then converted to a binary number which gets encrypted and stored. If decrypted and given to someone, this someone cannot reverse the process since many variables are not present.

Once this system is implemented, your son or daughter is in complete control of their own identity. They only can be identified by placing their finger on the reader. This protects them from losing an I.D. number or sharing that number with other students.

We will be phasing in the system over a period of time, starting with three schools: Blendon Middle School, Longfellow Elementary and Pointview Elementary. Once we are confident the system is working well with our Point-of-Sale software, we will then move forward with implementing at the rest of the schools throughout the 2015-2016 school year.

Thanks for being involved! It is important to us that your child's experience in school is educational and rewarding. We hope you will continue to find this way of identifying your child to be safe, easy, accurate and efficient.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Food Service Office at 797-5993. You may also contact the manufacturer, IDConnect, at 800-248-7460.

We look forward to serving your children.

Regards,

Karisa Dennis, Manager