

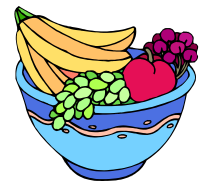


# Family Newsletter - September 2007

## Beginning of Another School Year

Welcome to all the new families to Extended Child Care! Please don't hesitate to ask questions of the center staff or call our main office. Welcome back to all our returning families! We are looking forward to a fun school year. Here are some reminders:

- Your center cannot accept payments, fill out childcare reimbursement forms, accept vacation credit requests or any other business related issues regarding your account. Please call our business office with these requests, our office is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- If you have been with us for awhile, please ask to review your emergency card in the center to be sure all phone numbers and pick up people are active and up to date. A couple of minutes spent when there is not an emergency can save lots of time and trouble if there is an emergency.
- Please drive slowly and carefully in your schools' parking lot. Also keep your child close when walking to your car. School parking lots are busy places.
- Remember all ECC centers close promptly at 6PM. There is a \$5.00 late fee for the first 1 to 5 minutes and a \$1.00 a minute charge for each additional minute after. This fee will appear on the following months bill.



## Child Care Food Program at Extended Child Care

Extended Child Care (ECC) participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, funded by the State and Federal governments. This program gives funding to licensed childcare centers for the meals they serve to children enrolled at their centers. The objectives of the program are to:

- Improve the diets of children under 13 years of age by providing them with nutritious, well-balanced meals.
- Develop good eating habits in children that will last through the later years.

In order to participate in this program, ECC is required to include certain food groups in the meals and snacks we serve. Breakfast includes a fruit or vegetable, a grain product, and milk. Lunch includes a meat or meat alternative, two servings of a fruit and/or vegetable, a grain product, and milk. The snack consists of at least two components, including a meat or meat alternative, fruit or vegetable, grain product, or milk. We usually include more than two items in the snack, as the children are very hungry after school and we want to ensure that something is served which they will look eagerly eat.

We are also participating in the **Five a Day Program** to encourage children to eat more fruits and vegetables. You can find menus posted at the center.

In September, you will be asked to fill out Meal Benefit Forms when you pick up your child at the center. Included with this notice is a letter describing the information needed, and an eligibility scale. All children at Extended Child Care are provided with a meal or snack at no additional charge. However, the amount we are reimbursed by the State is larger for families who qualify for free or reduced Meals. Please help ECC continue to provide quality food to your child by filling out these annual forms accurately after referring to the Income Eligibility Guidelines. More information will be available at your center when you fill out the Meal Eligibility and Annual Enrollment Forms.

It also important to let the center staff know if your child has any allergies to foods. Remind your children to not share food from home with other children as we do have children with food allergies.

