

Some FAQs About the WHS Food Service POS System

Thanks to Kevin Silvia, Food Service Director, Whitsons Culinary Group

What is the POS system?

The “POS” (“Point of Sale” system) is a computerized system, purchased by the Winchester School Department and managed by Whitsons, which students use to pre-pay for their food without the need for cash. Money is deposited into a student’s account, and these stored amounts are available for purchases. **Students may also purchase food with cash.**

How does it work?

Students show their WHS identification card if purchasing food with their pre-paid account. The cost of the food is deducted from the student’s account.

Eligibility for free and reduced priced meals is also entered into the computer so that students are charged appropriately. This information is completely confidential.

Why did WHS implement the POS system?

1. To make the lines move faster in the face of increasing enrollment.
2. To preserve the privacy of students who receive free and reduced-price lunches.
3. To reduce the need for students to carry cash which may be lost or forgotten.

How do I put money in my student's account?

There are two ways of depositing money into your child’s account. You or your student may deposit funds (cash or check payable to Winchester School Lunch Program) every weekday from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Alternatively, you may use the online payment system, **payforit.net**. This system allows you to add funds to your student’s account and check his or her account balance at any time. To set up an online account you need a valid email address, a credit card, and your student’s identification number. **There is a 5.75% fee for online transactions.**

To sign up for an account, go to payforit.net, click on “Sign Up for an Account” in the box on the upper right, and follow the instructions. The site has a FAQ section to answer your questions.

How long does it take for a deposit to show up in my student's account?

Deposits made in person are reflected immediately. Deposits made on payforit.net before midnight are generally reflected the following business day.

How do I know if their balance is running low?

Cashiers will notify students that their balances are running low. If you are using payforit.net you may establish a recurring payment to replenish your account via credit card when your child’s balance falls below a pre-selected level, and you may sign up to receive emails alerting you to low balances and/or monthly reminders of your account balance. See payforit.net for more details.