

Dear Parents:

This year the Larkspur School District is proud to announce the implementation of PowerLunch Point-of-Sale software, a feature of PowerSchool.

Our reasons for installing a Point-of-Sale system include:

- Increasing the speed of student transactions in the cafeteria lines
- Decreasing lunch fraud and bullying
- Eliminating overt identification of students who are eligible for free & reduced lunch

This digital finger image program requires neither identification badges (which get lost, mutilated or forgotten) nor a multi-digit identification number which children have a problem remembering. The child places the index finger on a small flat screen. The program converts that image to a numbered pattern, which is compared with the digital image previously entered into the system. This system is NOT associated with a fingerprint. It can NOT be used to identify students by lifting fingerprints and comparing them with the digital finger image. This system ensures total confidentiality for all students, no matter what their status as a free, paid or reduced category. With this system, only your child can access his/her account.

Each child who participates in the lunch program will only be fingerprinted once, typically when the student enters school and initially enrolls in the lunch program. The mathematical algorithm that is produced when a child is fingerprinted will stay with them until they graduate from Hall Middle School and then it will be deleted from our system. The algorithm will only be used for the purpose of the lunch program.

Parent(s) who are opposed to this method of identification may opt out for their student(s) by filling out the slip attached to the bottom of this form. While the district encourages participation in order to improve our customer service and help preserve the integrity of our student's lunch accounts; we are also sensitive to the fact that some parents are opposed to bio scanning of any type. If you are opposed, please complete the form attached below and return it to your student's campus office no later than September 4, 2009.

Students who do opt out of using the system will be required to have their student identification card out and ready for the cashier when purchasing from the cafeteria. Failure to present an ID will result in the student being sent to the office to receive either a temporary ID or a replacement ID. Fees are associated with replacement student identification cards. Students who possess an ID card but do not have it ready for the cashier, will be sent to the end of the line so that they will have time to locate their card without delaying other students.

The district appreciates your support as we undergo this transition.

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### **PowerLunch Opt Out Form**

Please do not scan my child(ren)'s finger for the purpose of the PowerLunch system in the cafeteria. Should I elect for my child(ren) to use this system in future, I will submit a written request. By submitting this form, I understand that my child will be required to show a school identification card when purchasing items from the cafeteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Names of children attending Neil Cummins Elementary School or Hall Middle School