Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our school is implementing a finger scanning identification system in an effort to provide accurate student identification as well as security for our student accounts. There is increased accountability for foodservice confidentiality, records, and there is a need to expedite the students' identification process during breakfast and lunch. We want to eliminate clerical errors and provide an easy and accurate way to identify students and be sure no one else can charge items to their accounts.

What is the finger/ thumb scanning identification system?

The finger/thumb scanning identification system is an automated method of identifying a person based upon physical or behavioral characteristics. Our school has selected the identiMetrics finger scanning Identification System because it is secure, accurate, cost-effective and non-intrusive.

How does finger scanning identification work?

Using the scanner, the software scans certain unique points on the finger/thumb to create and store individual unique templates that identify each student. When the student returns, the software again scans the finger/thumb and looks for a match in the database. When a match is found, the student is identified.

What about our students' privacy?

We are not fingerprinting the students. The software scans the finger/thumb for identification. It does not store a copy of the fingerprint. Instead, the software creates a template of the unique points on the finger. The template is converted to a unique number and is stored in the schools database with the same high level of security of all of our records. The template is also protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA is the same Federal Law that protects all student records. When your child graduates or is no longer enrolled in the 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.**

Thanks for your attention!

It is important to us that your child's experiences in school are educational and rewarding. This new way of identifying our students is safe, easy, accurate, efficient and secure. If you have any questions or do not want your child to participate, please do not hesitate to contact the school lunch office.

Sincerely,

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 This institution is an equal opportunity provider