

FAQ's for MCL

Time Related Questions:

Q. *How much time will I need to devote to the event on the day of the lunch?*

A. Set up begins between 11:00-11:30 am. Hot food arrival by noon. The children get fed from 12:20-1:30. Cleanup ends by 2 pm. If you run out of food early, you are welcome to leave whenever you are finished cleaning up your station.

Q. *When and where do I drop off a donated drink item?*

A. The week before the event is best but anytime including the morning of the event is OK at the Sentinel office.

Q. *When do I drop off a donated cold food item?*

A. Either in the morning before school begins or by 11:00 am.

Q. *When do I drop off a donated hot food item?*

A. Between 11:45 am and 12 noon.

Q. *Can I volunteer for both ticket sales and to help serve food at the event?*

A. Yes

Q. *How do we sign up to volunteer?*

A. Look for the emails sent to your home from Sentinel Secondary. There will be a link within them.
Alternatively, look for the link on this website.

Q. *What do I do if I signed up to help but no longer can?*

A. Please try and find a replacement but contact the MCL organizer as soon as you know you might not be able to help. We may have extra people that could take your shift.

Food Related Questions:

Q. *Are there any dietary restrictions we need to be aware of?*

A. Yes. Please avoid high risk items like peanuts if possible. If you donate a baked goods item that contains nuts, they need to be individually wrapped or placed in small zip loc bags and labelled with their nut / allergen item. If you make a salad or hot food dish that contains nuts, please create a label and have it clearly posted by the food item.

Q. *Can we donate soda pop?*

A. Yes. This is a fundraiser and as such we try to provide a wide selection of items that the children will buy. Please ensure that all drinks are in cans or bottles. No glass or juice boxes allowed.

Q. *Will the school reheat my hot food dish before the event begins?*

A. No. The school does not have the ability to reheat. Also, Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) states that all hot food must be consumed 2 hours after arrival at an event, hence must not be dropped off before 11:45 am.

Q. *Is there an electrical outlet I can plug my hot food pot into?*

A. Yes but very few, so if you are able to, please borrow hot chaffing dishes from a local restaurant for the lunch hour and return them after the event.

Please communicate any electrical outlet needs to the organizer. There will not be one available unless specifically told arranged prior to the event.

Q. *Does the school provide extension cords?*

A. No, the school does not have any extension cords therefore please bring your own and label it with your name.

Q. *What if I don't like the location of my table. Am I able to move elsewhere?*

A. Likely not, but we will be open to suggestions. Managing the flow of the students and having consistency year in and year out helps the event run as smoothly as possible. Electrical outlets also impose unavoidable restrictions.

Q. *Do I get my serving dish and serving utensils back?*

A. Yes. All serving dishes will be washed and available for pickup in the staffroom (beside the office) the morning after the event. Please put an identification label on the bottom. When providing serving utensils please put a label on the handle.

Q. *Is MCL a 'Green Event'?*

A. Yes it is! No styrofoam packaging, no saran wrap or similar plastic wrappings, and no non-biodegradable plastic utensils are to be put into Sentinel's waste bins. Parents drop off their food with almost exclusively non-biodegradable packaging and occasionally plastic cutlery.

All plastic, plastic wrap and foil that your food comes in must be put into the designated 'Garbage' bins in the corner of the gymnasium. Most garbage bins are green waste only. Please read the garbage instructions carefully and if in doubt, ask the coordinators or get a clean trash bag and ensure your waste ends up in a 'garbage' not 'green waste' bin.

Attendance Related Questions:

Q. *Are family members; spouses, siblings allowed to attend the event?*

A. This is a student/staff only event. Only the adults helping to serve food at the event are allowed. There is limited space so please no siblings.

The only guests that attend are school trustees from the West Vancouver school board office.

Q. *How much money does one student typically spend at the lunch?*

A. In 2017 dollars, please allow \$10 for modest eaters and \$12 to \$15 for big eaters.

Q. *If a student loses their tickets, are they able to get more for free?*

A. Unfortunately not. Please keep them safe until the lunch begins.

Q. *If we are running a table, how do I dress for the event?*

A. Creativity is welcome. This is as varied as the people running the table. Most wear their usual attire. Some wear matching aprons and may even wear a costume that represents their country.

Q. *Do we decorate the tables?*

A. It is up to the table coordinators to decide how creative they intend to be. Most tables like to create a large poster that they install on the wall behind their table. Some bring plastic table cloths in the colour(s) that represent their countries flags. This adds delightful colour to the gym and the children really enjoy your creativity.

Fundraising Related Questions:

Q. *How much money should we donate?*

A. No amount is too small. Please remember that all donations benefit your children and the school directly.

Q. *How do we go about making a donation?*

A. Please write a cheque to Sentinel PAC. If you require a tax receipt (for amounts above \$25 only) please fill in the form available on our website and attach the cheque to it. You may also put cash into an envelope and drop it at the front office but please make sure you have written what the money is for on the envelope. Please note that the PAC cannot be responsible for money given to a third party.

Q. *What has the money raised purchased in the past?*

A. Scholarships, Wish list items from the school and staff, and large one off ticket items, such as filtered water drinking fountains.