

Montville Township High School

August 26, 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

As you probably know, when the high school adopted its current modified block schedule several years ago, it was necessary to have a common lunch period for all students. Since the high school was unable to accommodate the entire student population in the cafeteria during this common lunch, students who could not be seated were permitted to sit on the rotunda and hallway floors to eat lunch.

This practice, although a solution to the lunch seating problem, is not a good one. First and foremost, it is unsanitary to eat on floors, especially in high traffic areas of a school. Although our floors are constantly cleaned, they are not suitable for eating – it's unsanitary for food or hands touching food to come in contact with them. This was a concern with a recent health inspection of our food services department by the township. Also, having students sitting on floors (in many cases with their feet extended) and eating increases the risk of tripping accidents for individuals walking by them and presents a real danger of slipping on dropped food. As a matter of fact, individuals have already slipped and fallen from food/drinks that were spilled on hallway floors.

Therefore, in order to ensure the health and safety of all, starting in September 2008, we will implement the following initiatives to eliminate the need for students to sit and eat on floors during lunch:

1. We have purchased additional chairs to maximize seating in the cafeteria.
2. We have purchased additional benches to maximize seating in the rotunda.
3. We will utilize bleacher seats in both gyms, as well as provide lunch tables in the old gymnasium.
4. We will redeploy our mobile food carts to serve students in areas outside the cafeteria.
5. Also, weather permitting, we will be able to accommodate seniors in the newly refurbished senior courtyard that now contains tables and chairs for more than 100 students.

The administration and staff at Montville Township High School appreciate your continued support of our school and educational programs.

Sincerely,

Frederick S. D'Antoni
Principal