



MySchoolMeals.com Teams up with AppFinity Software to Develop Fully Customized Meal Ordering System

Web-based Ordering Solution Tackles Age-old Problem for Parents and Young Students

It's one of those long-standing scenarios that parents have been grappling with for ages—how to best manage the process of selecting the best possible meals for their smaller children from the options their public schools offer. It's bad enough that meal programs often rely too much on volunteers or teachers who waste valuable class time taking meal orders. There's the additional issue of small children coming to school each day with money from their parents to purchase breakfasts and/or lunches. Since these young students are too young to be held responsible for handling money, occasionally they either lose the money or spend it on junk food...certainly not what their parents have in mind.

From the school's perspective, this process has been inefficient and wasteful. Staff typically has to spend too much time organizing and accounting for meal monies. In addition, without knowing which meal options the parents prefer for their children, there is much more chance of wasted food at the end of each day, not to mention the challenge of stocking up with the right quantities of food items in advance.

MySchoolMeals.com Seeks Winning Solution for Parents and Schools

To address these issues and provide a more streamlined ordering process for parents and schools, MySchoolMeals.com joined forces with AppFinity Software (www.appfinity.com) to design and develop a fully customized Web-based meal ordering solution from scratch. By providing expertise in Web-based application development, AppFinity Software helped MySchoolMeals deliver a secure and easy-to-use system that makes the meal ordering process as convenient and efficient as possible, both for the parents and the schools. The online system enables schools to eliminate or greatly reduce the need for volunteers or teachers to take orders. It takes the guesswork out of planning and preparing school meals, and minimizes cumbersome paperwork by automating many manual tasks and reporting requirements for governmental agencies.

New Software Makes Meal Ordering and Purchasing Quick and Easy

Here's how it works: Parents enroll in the service, enabling them to login to the system and select from a variety of meal options that their school makes available, either for the week or month. All prices for the individual breakfast and/or lunch items are displayed on-screen.

After they make their selections, the system totals the order and parents can then prepay with a major credit card. All transactions are highly encrypted to protect credit card (e-commerce) and confidential student information. Parents can also print out all the menu choices they have made for the desired period. The system also offers the flexibility to choose individual days during a period on which parents want to order meals, enabling them to make alternate arrangements on the days they don't order.

Feedback

"Just wanted to say the ordering online makes my life so much easier. Thanks." -- E.Garis

"I found the system extremely easy to use...very clear and quick." -- S. Kleinman

"The system worked great, very easy to use. I didn't have any problems in trying to order. The whole process was very self-explanatory." -- L Corcoran

"The system has cut my workload by 30%. No more spreadsheets to track lunches—Hallelujah!"
-- H. Jacob, Cafeteria Manager.

Parents and Schools Get What They Want—A More Efficient Meal-Ordering Process

As we revisit the initial concerns noted at the beginning, we can see the real value of the MySchoolMeals.com solution. No longer do small children have to bring any money to school in order to purchase their meals. Parents can select exactly the meals they want and not worry about what their children are eating at school. The schools benefit by receiving money up-front for meals and enjoy fully automated reporting capabilities to ensure that the information they present to applicable governmental agencies is in compliance with regulations.

About AppFinity Software

AppFinity Software Corporation (located in San Francisco, California) is dedicated to the design, implementation and support of e-commerce solutions that leverage existing technology investments and minimize ongoing IT costs. AppFinity solutions are fully customizable and can integrate with most existing commercial Web sites and today's most popular accounting software systems to deliver complete business solutions that enable companies to focus on their goals without exhausting precious resources on unnecessary IT expenditures. AppFinity is driven by a relentless quest to provide an extraordinary level of customer service that is peerless in today's fast-paced, high-stress business environment. For more information, please visit AppFinity Software at www.appfinity.com.

About MySchoolMeals.com

MySchoolMeals.com, based in Bergen County, New Jersey, offers both schools and parents a fast and easy way to pre-order and pay for school meals – right over the Web. MySchoolMeals.Com was founded by a multidisciplinary veteran team with over 20 years experience in school feeding programs. For more information, please visit MySchoolMeals.com at www.myschoolmeals.com.