



Welcome to Sparty's Dining at Gaston Day School

School Year 2026/2027

Here at Gaston Day School, we aren't serving your average school lunch! Chef Dave and his amazing team are creating delicious and exciting food on a daily basis. We are on a mission to change the stigma of "just school lunch". We are using fresh, high-quality ingredients to provide the students and staff with fun, seasonal, creative, and ethnically authentic lunches.

The lunch menu rotates loosely on a 6-week schedule. You can expect to find lunches like grandma's meatloaf, pizza & pasta bar, honey bbq salmon, buffalo chicken mac & cheese, greek chicken pita, tacos, "The Yinzer" (Pittsburgh Style Corned Beef Sandwich), spicy crab poke bowl, brisket burnt ends, chicken wings, chicken tenders, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, grilled cheese sandwiches and a whole host of other items that Chef Dave and his culinary team can come up with! Chef Dave always says, "We are only limited by our taste buds." On the menu, you'll also see monthly specials to celebrate holidays, birthdays, and special occasions. One of our students' favorite times of year is when Chef Dave runs his "Lunch Room March Madness". Just like the NCAA Basketball bracket, we take our top 16 lunches, match them up against each other, and let the daily sales determine who is King of the Lunchroom! (shameless plug: Be sure to check out our 3D printed trophies in the dining hall). If you ever have any suggestions, comments, or questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to [Chef Dave](#)!

Lower School: Preschool and Pre-K

PreSchool & PreK students eat lunch in their classroom. These students' lunches must be ordered ahead of time so that they can be delivered daily. Your lunches must be ordered by Sunday evening before the start of the school week. Parents, you'll find a

link on [Sparty's website](#) to place your students' lunch order. Each day, you'll have the option to order from the "Main Line," or you will have the option of ordering a sandwich lunch for your student. All lunches will include a drink. Drinks will vary from water to juice to milk. Please utilize the *comments* section to note any food allergies or dietary restrictions. Lunch for all lower school students this year will be \$9.50. If you ever have any questions, please reach out to [Chef Dave](#)!

Lower School: Kindergarten through Fourth Grade

Each day, your students will have the option to purchase lunch from the "Main Line". Your student will also have the option of substituting a sandwich for the main protein. All lunches will include a drink. Students will be able to choose from a variety of water, juice, and milk daily. Lunch for all lower school students this year will be \$9.50.

For these students, we also offer *ICE CREAM* days. On these days, they will have the opportunity to purchase \$1.75 ice cream cups, pops, and novelties. These opportunities will be coordinated with grade-level teachers.

Middle & Upper School: 5th grade through 12th grade (and Staff)

Beginning in 5th grade, the students will have multiple options daily to choose from. On a typical day, students & staff will be able to select from the Main Line, the Chef Station and Grab & Go Sandwich, and the Grab & Go Salad. From time to time, the dining team will create additional options that are available in limited quantities. Students & Staff lunch for 2026/2027 will be \$10.50 and includes bottled water. If you'd like to upgrade your lunch to include a 20oz soda or juice, add \$2. Watch out for weekly drink specials where you can upgrade for free to Sweet Tea or Punch!

Sparty's Snack Racks

All items in the dining hall are available for a la carte purchase. Limitations are put on Kindergarten-4th grade as to the items available for purchase. These will include 1oz bags of Chips, Fresh & Prepackaged Fruit, Jell-O cups, Pudding Cups, Fruit Snacks, Graham Crackers, and Granola Bars. 5th grade and up will have numerous choices ranging from candy bars, chips, ice cream, sodas, coffee drinks, and our *famous* XXL Chocolate Chip Cookies!

Adding funds

At Gaston Day, your lunch account is what we call a declining balance account; think of it just like a checking account at the bank. You add funds to your account, and when a purchase is made, the funds are deducted. There are a few ways to add funds.

1. CASH: Students may bring cash to the cafeteria and give it to the cashier to add to their account.
2. CHECK: Make the check payable to GDS and in the memo line put "SPARTYS-*student name*". Multiple checks are not necessary for multiple children. Simply note the breakdown you wish in the memo line
3. CREDIT/DEBIT/BANK: To add funds electronically, the parent should set up an account with mypaymentsplus.com (MPP) and link your student with their student ID number to your account. From there, you can use your credit card, debit card, or bank account to add funds. You can add funds as you choose, or you can set up a recurring transaction. Please note that MPP charges a fee to process all payments. You will need your student's ID number to set this up. If you are unsure of this or are having issues, please contact [Chef Dave](#)

MyPaymentsPlus Walk Thru

If you'd like to utilize MyPaymentsPlus to add funds to your student's account, simply follow these steps.

- Go to the MyPaymentsPlus website.
- Select Register Now.
- Select North Carolina for the state and Gaston Day for the school district.
- Fill out your account credentials.

Once you've created your account, you'll be able to link your student(s) to your account.

- Simply enter your students' ID number and last name. This will find them.
- From here, you'll be able to see their account history, and you can set up recurring payments or a one-time payment.
- You can also set up alerts for low balances.

Negative Balance Policy

We understand that from time to time, a check gets lost in a backpack, or there is a delay in money getting to the cafeteria. If an account is \$-150.00, sales will be limited to lunch only. Sales on all extra items will be blocked. "Extra items" would be items such as,

but not limited to, candy, ice cream, beverages other than water, cookies, and chips. If an account is \$-250.00, sales will be limited to boxed sandwich lunches only. Should an account get to \$-400.00, ALL sales will be blocked. We never want a child to go hungry, and we understand that “*things happen*”. If you are experiencing a special circumstance, please reach out to discuss options with [Chef Dave](#).

Spartan Brewing Grounds

What started as a monthly pop-up shop in 2023 has now become an exciting arm of Sparty's Dining. At our little coffee shop, we offer seasonal craft coffee drinks, boba drinks, and refreshers. Chef Dave and his team are constantly watching drink trends to bring Gaston Day the latest and greatest beverages. We have partnered with Gilmore's Mercantile in Gastonia for all of our coffee needs. Chef Dave and Mr. Gilmore went as far as to create our very own, **exclusive** custom roast called *Hallway Hustle*! Swing by and see us to see what we're serving! We'll have everything you need to get your day started!

Sparty's Birthday Treats

We know that your child's birthday is a special day. We also know that it can be hectic for parents to rearrange their schedules, pick up snacks, get to school, zoom back to work, and everything else that comes with birthdays during the school year. Why not let Sparty's help out with that? Thanks to a great idea from a parent, we've created a classroom birthday party package that can be delivered to your child's classroom on their big day! Some of our most popular birthday treats are our JUMBO chocolate chip cookies, ice cream cups, and rainbow push-ups. Items range from \$1.75-\$3.00 and can be delivered to your child's classroom. [Reach out with any questions](#). We're happy to customize a birthday treat for your birthday boy or girl!

[*For a digital copy of this, please see the Gaston Day School Website](#)