

## **Housing and Dining Upgrades**

There are some exciting dining upgrades coming for students in 2024. We are delighted to share the news that **Lacey Gearhart** joined the Chartwells team as the new General Manager. Lacey, who has had a highly successful career in the food service industry, brings an outstanding record of achievement in areas including customer satisfaction, food quality, and employee retention. She has been hard at work fine tuning things to make your dining experience better than ever.



**Lacey Gearhart, General Manager**

Other updates to the dining program include the addition of **Wildcard Wednesdays**, when members of the culinary team demonstrate their creativity and expertise with a special chef-prepared menu item made right in front of the students at the center Mongolian BBQ range. This semester has also brought revamped menus with a focus on fresh, made-from-scratch recipes and increased variety in vegetarian and allergen-free options. Some other exciting changes are planned for later this semester.

**Sous Chef Joe Koenig  
@ Wild Card Wednesdays**



**New Student Choice Concept** - Following last spring's vote, Smokeland has taken up residence in the Tuck Shop, replacing Tso Good as the **Student Choice** option. Student Choice enables students to choose the dining concept through voting. Starting this semester students will have the opportunity to change the Student Choice concept every 30 day. Votes are cast by scanning a QR code at the Student Choice location and results appear in real-time on an electronic display. Until now the maximum frequency for changing the Student Concept was twice per year.



**Expanded Meal Exchanges** - We have expanded the [meal exchange menu](#) for this year to give more options in locations including Pizza Pitt and Pitt Stop. The menu also includes several options at the Student Choice/Smokeland. Additionally, the meal exchange at Freshens now includes larger portions and choice of chips or whole fruit. As a reminder - Up to four meal swipes and/or exchanges can be used daily. One meal swipe/exchange can be used per one-hour period (Time periods reset at 2 minutes past the hour. Example - You can use one swipe at 10:58am and another swipe at 11:05am.). This timing issue will be fixed when the new ID Software is implemented for Fall 2025. Unfortunately, it cannot be alleviated until our new software system is in place. Meal exchanges must be ordered via the Boost app.

**Hot Breakfast is Back** - Hot breakfast has returned to PJ's! Breakfast will be served from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday. Brunch is served on the weekends. The return of hot breakfast has resulted in an-almost 60% increase in breakfast participation in PJ's.

**Food Allergies & Special Diets** - Chartwells' "[Don't be Shy, Self-Identify](#)" program provides an opportunity for you to communicate special dietary needs to the members of their

culinary team. If you have a food allergy or dietary restriction related to a medical conditions and/or religion (halal and kosher meals), create a "Don't be Shy" profile using the Dine on Campus app. A member of the Chartwells culinary team will then contact you to discuss your specific dietary needs and outline ways to ensure a safe and enjoyable dining experience.

**Go-Green Has Gone Greener** - We have expanded the Go-Green program to include a reusable, insulated cup. Go-Green offers you the opportunity to get your PJ's meals on a to-go basis using a reusable, insulated container. All residential meal plan holders get one free container and cup per year. A used container can be returned and exchanged for a sanitized one each time you return to PJ's for another to-go meal (cups are not exchangeable for clean one).

**First-Year Residence Hall Upgrades** – all first-year residence halls have renovated recreation rooms with updated equipment and main lobby areas to include furniture and flooring in each location. These upgrades were designed to create comfortable and attractive community spaces for each residence hall. Reaction from the students has been very positive.



**Balcony Removal** – the decorative balconies on all first-year residence halls were removed this summer to improve the aesthetic appearance and safety of the buildings.

Some locations in the North Lodges received new flooring and window treatments.