

Portable Perks

Definition:

portable - moveable



perks - something good, an extra, something that gives you happiness
and a way to make coffee



During the fall of 2017, we came to me with an idea of operating a coffee cart on campus. We found that as we talked more about the idea, our college embraced the thought of having a mobile cart to serve coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Our plans continued to unfold.

In October 2018, we opened Portable Perks. Our original thought was to have a special course which taught everything from customer service to cleaning to making change. For now, our cart is operated as a club and each of the HALO classes teaches the skills of this mini business. Our club is open to any student.

We know you are wondering.....

- 1. Why should a student join the club?** *Our students are learning the soft skills necessary for employment. We are taking them to the next level by allowing them to practice in a real life setting plus providing additional skills to help prepare them for the workforce, such as people skills, appearance and cleanliness, food sanitation and safety, time/measurement/money skills, teamwork, business skills, etc.*
- 2. What are the goals of Portable Perks?** *Along with providing students with real life experiences and a resource on campus, students will be promoting diversity! A win-win for the college! It is our intentions that any profits go back into the classroom for materials and hopefully create new scholarships for students. A few years ago, we had a HALO fund-raiser. This is our means for replacing the fundraiser!*
- 3. When will the club meet?** *The times and days will be determined after knowing student availability. We would like to sell coffee/tea, hot chocolate and perhaps water at different times throughout the day.*
- 4. How do students sign up for the club?** *Students can contact me through email, phone or by stopping by the office.*

5. What will the students be doing? We need students who will greet customers, prepare orders, clean and sanitize, organize and/or focus on bookkeeping. There is something for everyone!

6. Must a student take the Food Handler course and exam to participate?

Yes, we are required to follow the McLean County Health Department codes. The Food Handler course can be found by going to www.statefoodsafety.com and creating an account. There are 30, one-minute fun lessons. It is awesome material – teaching us about cleanliness, safety, etc. If a student wishes to do at home with parent/guardian assistance, they certainly can! I have created a study guide for the lessons. We will devote club time to certifying students who need to take the course. (Cost = \$10.00, great on a resume, required by most food establishments)

Portable & Perks

*Need a little perk in your
day?*

**Look for the Portable Perks cart
every Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday!**

Serving a variety of hot beverages and accessories

- Coffees
- Teas
- Hot chocolate

*Like us on Facebook - Portable Perks@Heartland
for locations and special promotions.*