

STUDENT MEAL CHARGES

The Board desires to allow children to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day, minimize identification of children with insufficient funds to pay for school meals, and maintain the financial integrity of the District's food service account. This policy sets forth how the District will handle situations where any children who do not have money in their account or in hand to cover the cost of their meal at the time of service.

Students may charge any combination of meals up to a negative balance of three times the current lunch fee. When a negative balance of three times the current lunch fee is reached, the parents/guardians/custodians of the student will be contacted by the District and an alternative meal and milk will be provided to the student until the entire negative balance is paid in full. Students may only purchase snack or a la carte items with cash if they have a positive account balance.

The District shall communicate regularly with the parents of students regarding collection of a negative meal balance of three times the current lunch fee or more. If a negative balance remains unpaid for four weeks or more, the Board reserves the right to take legal action to collect on the debt.

This policy is to be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households transferring to the District during the school year. A copy of this policy shall also be provided to all District staff responsible for its enforcement.

LEGAL REFS: *Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies*, United States Department of Agriculture, SP 46-2017.

Adopted: October 17, 2017