

NEGATIVE BALANCE ON SCHOOL MEALS

The Board of Education recognizes that, on occasion, students may forget to bring meal money to school. To ensure that students do not go hungry, but also to promote responsible student behavior and to minimize the fiscal burden on the district, all district schools shall follow guidelines with regard to meal charges.

- A student account may not be allowed to go negative for the value of more than three (3) meals.
- Once a student account is negative, only regular meals may be charged, that is, only the type A meal on the menu
- No snacks may be charged once an account is negative
- A computer-generated point-of-sale system shall be used for identifying and recording all charged meals as well as collected repayments

This policy applies to all paying students whether they are paying full-price or reduced-price. Students with a negative balance of at least two meals will be immediately notified by the building administrator or designee regarding the status of their accounts.

A student who abuses this policy may be denied a meal. If school authorities suspect that a student may be abusing this policy, they must first provide written notice to the parent that if he/she continues to abuse this policy, the privilege of charging meals will be refused.

The school district shall send notification to all parents on an annual basis, prior to the opening day of school, notifying them of the requirements of this policy.

The District shall maintain a system for accounting for charged meals that follows state guidelines.

Ref: Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. § 1771 et seq.
National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C., § 1715 et seq.
Guidance Document, State Education Department, Child Nutrition Program; “Establishing a Meal Charge policy”, August 2005

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