

STUDENT MEAL CHARGES

The Board recognizes the impact that wellness has on student achievement. To support this, students are provided competitively priced, nutritious meals at each District school. Parents are also expected to support this by maintaining a positive balance in their student's meal account throughout the school year. Parents whose circumstances make this difficult may apply for reduced-priced or free meals under federal guidelines.

This policy establishes tenets for unpaid student accounts that balance the responsibility of parents to pay these charges with the necessity of treating each student in the serving line with respect regardless of the student's eligibility.

There are no provisions for charges for breakfasts.

No elementary or middle school student will be denied a lunch regardless of account status. Students with an excess negative balance will be provided an alternative meal. High school students with a negative balance will not be allowed any further purchases.

Parents will be notified:

1. When their student's account goes negative.
2. By mail if account deficit is two weeks in arrears.

On May 15 each school year, unpaid student accounts with delinquent debt may, upon the decision of the Superintendent or Food Services Director, be assigned to a collection agency. At the end of June each year, delinquent debt becomes bad debt.

The Director of Food Services, with the concurrence of the Superintendent, is responsible for implementing the procedures for student meal charges in EFDA-R.

The Director of Food Services will annually report:

1. The cost, if any, for an alternative meal at the elementary and middle school level.
2. By school level: amount of unpaid meal charges, the number of students involved and the number of unpaid balances that have been sent to collection.

Legal References:

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Public Law 111-296

RSA 189:11-a, Food and Nutrition Programs

Section 204 of Public Law 108-265, Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004

42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq., National School Lunch Act

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.11, Food & Nutrition Services

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[New Policy]

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