

OUTSTANDING FOOD SERVICE CHARGES

8550 OUTSTANDING FOOD SERVICE CHARGES

The Board of Education understands a student may forget to bring breakfast or lunch, as applicable, or money to purchase breakfast or lunch to school on a school day. When this happens, the food service program will provide the student with breakfast or lunch with an expectation payment will be made the next school day or shortly thereafter. However, there may be circumstances when payment is not made and a student's school breakfast/lunch bill is in arrears. The school district will manage a student's breakfast or lunch bill that is in arrears in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:33-21 and this Policy.

In the event a student's school lunch or breakfast bill is in arrears, the Principal or designee shall contact the student's parent to provide notice of the amount in arrears.

Once the amount in arrears is greater than the value of 5 meals (either full or reduced) the following shall occur:

- The student will be provided a basic cold lunch that will contain all components of a balanced meal as prescribed by the Bureau of Child Nutrition Program.
- The students' account will be charged for the cold meal at the rate of their eligibility.
- Parents/Guardians will be responsible for all food purchases charged to the student's account.
- If a student's eligibility changes to free or reduced the parent/guardian will be responsible for any outstanding obligations incurred before the change of status.
- Parents/Guardians of students who receive meal benefits are responsible for any charges incurred before a meal application is approved and between the time that an application has expired and new one is approved.
- No la carte items can be charged to a student's account if they have a zero or negative balance.
- All balances on student accounts will be carried over to the following school year.
- Outstanding balances can result in loss of school privileges



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The Principal or district designee will continue to send notices to the parent weekly for elementary and bi-weekly for middle and high school. After the second notice the parent/guardian may be requested to meet with the Principal or district designee to discuss and resolve the matter.

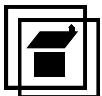
A parent's refusal to meet or take other steps to resolve the matter may be indicative of more serious issues in the family or household. In these situations, the Principal or designee shall consult with and seek necessary services from both the County Board of Social Services and the Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency, as appropriate.

When a parent's routine failure to provide breakfast or lunch is reasonably suspected to be indicative of child abuse or neglect, the Principal or designee shall immediately report such suspicion to the Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency as required in N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10. Such reporting shall not be delayed to accommodate a parent's meeting with the Principal or designee.

The provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:33-21 and this Policy will be made available to parents of all children in the school district in a manner as determined by the Superintendent.

N.J.S.A. 18A:33-21

Adopted: August 22, 2016



POLICY

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