

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 (\$4.00) 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 and shall provide the parent a period of ten school days to pay the full amount due plus any accrued charges. If the student's parent does not make full payment to the Principal or designee by the end of the ten school days, the Principal or designee shall again contact the student's parent to provide a second notice that their child's lunch or breakfast bill is in arrears. If payment in full is not made within one week from the date of the second notice, the student will be provided an alternate lunch that will contain the essentials in balanced nutritional selections as prescribed by the Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture beginning the eighth calendar day from the date of the second notice.

- The elementary and middle school student will continue to receive a cheese sandwich until the balance is paid in full.
- The high school student will not receive any meals until the balance is paid in full.
- A la carte, snacks, or beverages may not be charged under any circumstances.
- Charging by adults is strictly prohibited.

A parent who has received a second notice their child's lunch or breakfast bill is in arrears and who has not made payment in full within one week from the date of the second notice will be requested to meet with the Principal or designee to discuss and resolve the matter. In the event the parent refuses to meet with the Principal or designee or is unable to resolve the matter, 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.



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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. 9:6-9.10. Such reporting shall not be delayed to accommodate a parent's meeting with the Principal or designee.

Additionally, within 30 days of a negative balance, collection procedures will be initiated on all unresolved balances starting with a letter to the responsible party. If there is no response, a second letter will be sent. After it is judged that the usual method to collect the money owed to the district have failed, then legal action will be taken to collect.

This 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

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