

OUTSTANDING FOOD SERVICE CHARGES

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The Board of Education understands a student may forget to bring lunch, or money to purchase lunch to school on a school day. When this happens, the food service program will provide the student with 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 lunch bill is in arrears. The school district will manage a student's 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 bill is in arrears, the Food Service Director 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. If the student's parent does not make full payment to the Food Service Director or designee by the end of the ten school days, the Food Service Director or designee shall again contact the student's parent to provide a second notice that their child's lunch bill is in arrears. If payment in full is not made within one week from the date of the second notice, the student will not be served school breakfast or lunch, as applicable, beginning the eighth calendar day from the date of the second notice.

A parent who has received a second notice their child's lunch 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.

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.



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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: 17 December 2015

Revised: 28 July 2016

