

Policy Code: 6226 Lunch Charge

Introduction

The Child Nutrition Program of Harnett County Schools is a non-profit, self-supporting program. All monies collected are used to operate the program which covers the costs of food, supplies, labor, equipment and equipment repair. Our goal is to provide high quality, nutritious meals to our students at a reasonable cost. The Child Nutrition Program is governed by a variety of local, state and federal policies. According to the OMB A-87 Circular, Local Educational Agency Child Nutrition Programs are not allowed to use federal funds to offset meal charges to students or adults. Audit standards require that a charge policy be developed for each Child Nutrition Program. School meals may be prepaid in advance by several methods. Advanced payment by cash, check or money order may be sent to the school cafeteria. Also meal payments may be made by credit or debit card at k12paymentcenter.com.

Procedures

Students in grades K-8 may charge up to \$12.00 for breakfast and lunch only. This will, at this time, cover breakfast and lunch for three days. The charge limit may change when meal prices change. A charge letter will be sent home, by the Child Nutrition Manager, once a week for all students who have outstanding charges until the charges are paid. A free and reduced meal application for the household to complete will also be sent home with the first charge letter. Students will be verbally reminded each time there is a charged meal. After a student has reached \$12.00 in charges, the student will be served an alternative meal. The alternative lunch consists of two vegetables and 1 fruit with a carton of milk. The alternative breakfast consists of a muffin and a carton of milk. The cost of these meals must be covered by the school board. If payment of the charges is not received by the fifth school day after the \$12.00 charge, the Child Nutrition Manager will give the name of the student to the principal or designee. The principal or designee will call the parents/guardians to request payment of the charges. If the student charge continues for an extended period of time or a student is consistently without meal money, the principal or designee should contact the social worker at the school for further inquiry.

Each Monday, the Child Nutrition Manager must give the Principal and designee a list of students who have outstanding charges. This will keep the principal updated on all charges that are being made.

The principal or designee is responsible for unpaid meal charges that are not collected when a student withdraws from a school in Harnett County to a school which is not in Harnett County. For this reason, when a student is withdrawing the Child Nutrition manager should be contacted to determine whether the student has an outstanding charge.

Extra items will not be charged.

There will be no adult charges.

Adopted: September 8, 2008

Revised: December 11, 2017

Harnett County Schools