

Students who are required to pay for meals are expected to provide payment in a timely manner. The school district does not permit any meal or a la carte purchase that will result in a negative account balance for any student or adult. The board recognizes, however, that students occasionally may forget or lose their meal money. In the event that a student is unable to pay for a meal on a particular day, the student will be served a designated alternate meal provided at no cost to the student. Appropriate modifications to the alternative meal will be made when required by the student's documented special dietary needs. To safeguard the dignity and confidentiality of students in the serving line, reasonable efforts must be used whenever possible to avoid calling attention to a student's inability to pay.

Parents will be notified of low balances in a child's meal account at regular intervals during the school year. If a parent regularly fails to provide meal money and does not qualify for free meal benefits, the child nutrition staff shall inform the principal, who shall determine the next course of action.

This policy must be communicated to school administrators, school food service professionals, and families. Families will receive a written copy of the meal charges policy at the start of each school year and at any time their child transfers into the school system during the school year.

Legal References: Child Nutrition Act of 1966, [42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.](#); National School Lunch Act, [42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.](#), [2 C.F.R. pt. 200](#); [7 C.F.R. pt. 210](#); [7 C.F.R. pt. 215](#); [7 C.F.R. pt. 220](#); United States Department of Agriculture Policy Memos SP 46-2016 and 47-2016, available at <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/regulations-policies/usda-policy-memos/2016/2016usda-policymemos>; [G.S. 115C-47\(7\)](#), [-47\(22\)](#), [-263](#), [-264](#), [-264.1](#), [-426](#), [-450](#), [-522](#); [147, art. 6E](#); [16 N.C.A.C. 6H .0104](#); State Board of Education Policy TCS-S-000

Adopted: February 21, 2017

WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION