

CHARGING SCHOOL MEALS

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that each child attending Ledyard Public Schools has access to healthy and nutritious school meals, regardless of the socio-economic status of a family. On the occasion that a child does not have money to pay for a school meal or has not been provided with one by his/her family, the child will be allowed to charge the cost of the school meal up to a point, after which the child will be provided with an "alternative meal" until such time as the charged meals have been repaid.

Responsibilities

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for implementing the necessary processes to carry out the requirements of this policy.

School District personnel will work with the food service manager, students and their parents/guardians to ensure a confidential payment is made for any charged meals. All efforts must be made to ensure this matter is handled with minimal impact to the student.

If at any time during the school year District personnel suspect that the student's family is under financial hardship, the building Principal will be so notified and shall encourage the family to apply for the free/reduced-priced meal program.

The food service manager is responsible for maintaining records of charged meals, not allowing students to charge over the limits set forth in this policy, and for notifying the District of the amount of outstanding balances.

The Superintendent shall notify students and their parents/guardians of this policy when implemented, on at least an annual basis via student handbooks, and directly when new students register in the District.

Students and their parents/guardians are responsible for making prompt payments when notified of outstanding charges. A student's parents/guardians may opt out of allowing their child to charge schools meals by so informing the student's building Principal in writing.

Charging Limitations and Repayment Requirements

If a student fails to bring the necessary funds for a school meal, the student will be allowed to charge up to two meals.

When a student has charged two meals, the student will be provided an "alternative meal," such as a cheese sandwich, fruit and milk, at no cost until such time that the charges are paid.

SCHOOL MEALS CHARGING SCHOOL MEALS

Students with outstanding charges and their parents/guardians will be contacted by the Principal or designee by mail, email or phone when the outstanding balance reaches two meals and at least monthly thereafter.

All outstanding charges not paid by the end of the school year will be carried forward into the next school year.

Graduating Ledyard High School seniors must pay all outstanding charges in full before the graduation ceremony in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-215. Lunches, breakfasts and other feeding programs for public school children and employees.

Policy adopted: March 5, 2014
Revised: September 20, 2017

LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Ledyard, Connecticut

