

Burgess Elementary School

School Lunch Charging Policy

Burgess Elementary School Food Service Department strives to provide students with healthy meals each day according to the federal and state nutritional guidelines. However, unpaid charges place a financial burden on the district and in violation of the federal program guidelines. In order to maintain compliance with federal reporting requirements for the USA Child Nutrition Program and to provide oversight and accountability for the collection of outstanding student meal balances, the Burgess School Committee establishes this policy.

ALL students will be allowed to charge up to \$15.00 on their account.

A student will not be allowed to charge an a la carte item once they have a negative balance (snack milk or second menu item) on their account; however, after the -\$15.00 has been charged he/she will be offered a designated menu alternate. Sample: Cheese sandwich, fruit and milk. This designated menu alternate will be charged to the child's meal account at the standard meal rate for that child.

There will be no charging allowed for any employees of the school.

Parents/guardians are responsible for meal payment to the food service program. Notices of low or deficit balances will be sent to parents/guardians on a weekly during the school year. In order to assist parents the following payment options are available:

- Online payments- money can be placed on a student's account by registering online through our food service program.
- Cash or checks- Money in the form of cash or checks may be sent to the Food Service Office or given to the cashier at lunch.
- Free/reduced – A yearly application must be complete and on file in the food service office to qualify. Please remember this information is kept confidential. If your family circumstances change during the school year, you may reapply to determine eligibility.

If a student is without meal money on a consistent basis, the administration will investigate the situation more closely and take further action as needed. If financial hardship exists, parents and families are encouraged to apply for free and reduced price lunches for their children.

Legal Refs: National School Lunch Act, as amended (42 USC 1751-1760)
Child Nutrition Act 1996, P.L. 89-642, 80 Stat, 885, as amended M.G.L. 15:1G;
15:1L, 69:1C; 71:72, 2 CFR Part 225