## **Cafeteria Charging Policy**

## **Negative Account Balances**

Students will be permitted to purchase meals from the District's food service using either cash on hand or a food service account. A student may be allowed to incur a negative food service account balance subject to the following conditions.

- \*Students (grades 9-12) may be permitted to accumulate negative food service account balance not to exceed \$15.00.
- \*Students up to grade eight (8) will be allowed to incur a negative balance not to exceed \$10.00.
- \*A student shall not be permitted to purchase a la carte items without sufficient account balance or cash on hand.
- \*Any student who has a negative account balance may not purchase a la carte items with cash unless the student is also able to bring their account current.

A student who has exceeded the permissible negative balance amount in their account and does not have cash on hand sufficient to purchase a meal will be treated respectfully. The District will provide meals to students with unpaid meal balances without stigmatizing them, will provide parents of students who charge meals with notification when a student charges a meal, and will make efforts to collect the charges incurred by the students so that the unpaid charges are not classified as bad debt at the end of the school year.

Negative lunch account balances will carry over from year-to-year until paid in full.

Students who have qualified for Free lunches are still responsible for paying off any debt that was incurred prior to qualifying for free lunches.