**Hancock County Schools**

**Food Services**

**Meal Charge Policy**

Charges are designed to cover a situation in which parents or students forget to provide or bring monies for breakfast/lunch and not for the child’s meal to be the responsibility of the program. Students who have forgotten money may charge meals in the cafeteria. If the child’s account balance is in the negative, under no circumstance may ala carte items be sold until the money owed is paid in full. Adult meals must be paid for in advance or at the time of purchase. There are no provisions for adult charges.

The following steps may be taken in collecting funds owed to the Food Service Program throughout the district: Cashiers verbally remind the student that their account is low to try to avoid meal charges; cashiers verbally remind students that their account is in the negative, one call reminders can go out to parents; negative charges in the amount of $20.00 and below have a letter sent home with the child from school; negative charges above $20.00 are sent home through the mail; seniors that are eligible for graduation may not walk the line if funds are due to the district; transfer students may be revoked at the end of a semester if account balances become a significant problem; if non-payment persists, the debt is passed on to a third party for collection and may result in legal action at the cost of the debtor.

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