



## Charge Policy for School Meals

Charging for school meals refers to any time a student does not have enough money to cover the price of a meal at the point of sale. Charges for meals are permitted for students who occasionally forget or misplace their money up to a MAXIMUM of the dollar equivalent of:

**Elementary, (Grades Kg-5)** = 3 lunches and 3 Breakfast Meals or **\$13.00** in total charges.

**Secondary, (Grades 6-12)** = 2 lunches and 2 Breakfast meals or **\$9.00** in total charges.

**Reduced status students** = 4 breakfasts and 4 lunches or **\$3.00** in total charges.

**Snacks and ala carte items cannot be charged.**

**We ask that charges be repaid the following school day.** Once a student reaches the charge limit, Delaware City Schools will not let a child go hungry and will therefore offer a PBJ Grahamwich bar, cheese stick, and a milk (also called an emergency meal) if the student does not have money for the meal or a packed lunch. Students in grades 6-12 may not be offered more than 2 emergency meals after reaching the maximum charge limit and will then be offered the chance to call home to have the parents provide them with a lunch.

### NOTIFICATION OF LOW CASH BALANCES

- Parents may be notified of low cash balances through a free automated email when parents register their student online with SPS EzPay. Parents may go to the district website [www.dcs.k12.oh.us](http://www.dcs.k12.oh.us) and click on the EzPay button to register their student to receive the free email notifications and to check the lunch account balance. Online payments require 1-2 business days to show on the lunch account.
- **Negative Balance Notices** will be given to ELEMENTARY students (Kg-5<sup>th</sup> grades) at the end of the school day to take home to parent/guardians as a reminder to replenish the student meal account with money owed and to remind them additional funds will be needed for any future meals.
- **Negative Balance Reminders** will be given to SECONDARY students (6-12<sup>th</sup> grades) at the register to take home for their parent/guardian as a reminder to replenish the student meal account with money owed and to remind them additional funds will be needed for any future meals.
- The cafeteria cashier will also notify parents by phone, when the student's lunch account has reached the maximum limit of allowable charges, to inform parents money is needed OR a packed lunch will be needed the next day.

**CHARGING will NOT be allowed** at the end of the school year:

- Elementary students, no charging allowed during last two weeks in MAY.
- Secondary students, grades 6-12, no charging allowed during the full month of MAY.

Unpaid meal charges will be carried over at the end of the school year to the next school year and will be subject to this charge policy the following year.