

7.17—FOOD SERVICE PREPAYMENT

Meal Charges

Option 1: The district does not provide credit for staff or students to charge for meals, a la carte, or other food and beverage items available for purchase in the school food service areas. Meals, a la carte, or other food and beverage items may be purchased by either providing payment for the items at the time of receipt or by having a prepaid account with the District that may be charged for the items. Staff and parents, or students choosing to do so, may pay in advance for meals, a la carte, or other food and beverage items through any of the following methods:

- Submitting cash or check payment at any school in the district or any cafeteria in the district.
- Depositing funds through the District's online service; **EZSchoolPay-OSP**
- **Account Balance for Students can be found on EZSchoolPay App**

A student's parents will be contacted by authorized District personnel regarding a student's prepaid account balance at the following times: When the account reaches a zero or negative balance.

Unpaid Meal Access

In accordance with Arkansas law, the District allows students whose accounts do not have enough funds to purchase a meal to receive an unpaid reimbursable meal at no charge. The District will notify a student's parents:

- When the student's prepaid account balance has dropped to the point that the student will begin receiving unpaid meals;
- ~~Each time the student receives the first unpaid meal after money has been deposited into the student's prepaid account; and~~
- ~~After the student has received five (5) unpaid meals.~~

Students who have submitted proper documentation to receive a meal modification in accordance with Policy 4.50—SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS shall receive the same type of modification for an unpaid meal.

Notes: This policy is similar to policy 4.51. If you change this policy, please review 4.51 at the same time to ensure applicable consistency between the two.

A copy of this policy must be communicated in writing at least once to all households at the start of each school year and to households of students who transfer to the school during the school year. Some suggestions on communication methods are to include a copy of the policy in:

- Student enrollment materials;
- Print versions of student handbooks; or
- Notification methods on applying for free or reduced price meals.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) does not consider providing a copy of this policy only in electronic format to satisfy the communication requirement.

A written copy of this policy must be provided to all staff responsible for policy enforcement. This includes:

- A. School food service professionals;
- B. Staff involved in notifying families of low prepaid account balances;
- C. School social workers;
- D. School nurses; and
- E. The LEA homeless student liaison.

Legal References: Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-003
 Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-024
 A.C.A. § 6-18-715

Date Adopted:8.1.19

Last Revised:

