

Burlington Public School School Lunchroom Charge Policy

The Burlington Public School Child Nutrition Program is an enterprise fund that must generate finances through student and adult lunch sales and federal and state reimbursement in order to pay operating expenses and fees.

Meal Charge Policy Goals are:

1. *To establish a consistent district policy regarding charges and collection of charges;*
2. *To treat all students with dignity in the serving line regarding meal accounts;*
3. *To encourage parents to assume the responsibility of meal payments and to promote self-responsibility of the student.*

It is the policy of the Burlington Public School District to allow students to charge meals, because the Burlington Public School District Board believes that **a hungry child cannot learn.**

Statements of account will be sent out at the end of each month. Students and/or parents/guardians are **encouraged to pay in advance** for meal purchases. Deposits in any amount may be made to a student's personal lunch account. All students have personal accounts regardless of their meal status (free, reduced or full pay). **Those not paid in advance will need to be paid promptly when the monthly statement is received.**

Unpaid charges reduce revenue that affects the ability to pay outstanding bills and employee salaries. BAD DEBTS (unpaid meal charges) are NOT ALLOWED in the Child Nutrition Program according to cost principles determined in the accordance with federal regulations, 7CFR, Part 3015 and OMB Circular A-87. Uncollected charges may result in higher meal prices for all other students.

To help keep meal costs down, lunch charges should be paid on time. Uncollected charges and the service costs associated with collecting those charges increases meal prices for all students.

Applications for free and reduced price lunches are included in the enrollment packets, and are available in the school office throughout the school year. Free and reduced lunch numbers are used to determine budget allocations. The higher the number, the more money allotted to the school budget. Even if the intent is not to purchase school lunches, applications should be completed so that the school's number can be at a maximum.

Approved by Burlington Board of Education January 20, 2010.

Board of Education President

Superintendent