

ROSEVILLE AREA SCHOOLS
Independent School District No. 623

Policy 534 – School Meals Policy

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students receive healthy and nutritious meals through the school district's nutrition program and that school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. Roseville Area Schools' policy is to provide meals to students in a respectful manner and to maintain the dignity of students by prohibiting lunch shaming or stigmatization of students. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day and minimize identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for a la carte items or second meals as well as to maintain the financial integrity of the National School Breakfast and Lunch program.

2.0 Payment of Meals

- 2.1 Roseville Area Schools will offer all students in prekindergarten through twelfth grade one breakfast and one lunch at no cost each school day through Minnesota's Free School Meals for Kids program.
- 2.2 Once a meal has been placed on a student's tray or otherwise served to a student, the meal may not be subsequently withdrawn from the student by the cashier or other school employee.
- 2.3 A student will not be allowed to charge a second meal or a la carte purchase to their meals account without sufficient funds.
- 2.4 If a family chooses to send in one payment that is to be divided between sibling accounts, the parent or guardian must specify how the funds are to be distributed to the students' accounts.

3.0 Notification of Account Status

- 3.1 The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low or fall below zero.
- 3.2 Families can set up low balance email alerts and automated payments when their child's meal account balance reaches a certain amount via the district's online payment system.
- 3.3 Families will be notified of an outstanding negative balance by automated text messages sent twice per month. A letter will also be mailed monthly to the student's home.

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- 3.4 Reminders for payment of outstanding student meal balances will not demean or stigmatize any student participating in the school lunch program.
- 4.0 Unpaid Meal Charges
 - 4.0 The school district will make reasonable efforts to communicate with families to resolve the matter of unpaid charges. Where appropriate, families may be encouraged to apply for educational benefits for their children.
 - 4.1 The school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent.
 - 4.2 Families of enrolled students with a negative balance will carry over into the next school year.
 - 4.3 The school district will not limit a student's participation in any school activities, graduation ceremonies, field trips, athletics, activity clubs, or other extracurricular activities or access to materials, technology, or other items provided to students due to an unpaid student meal balance.
- 5.0 Communication of Policy
 - 5.1 This policy will be distributed to households annually via district and school newsletters.
 - 5.2 The policy will be posted on the district's website.

Adopted: