

Marysville Public Schools School Lunch Negative Balance Policy

Marysville Public Schools is committed to ensuring that all students have access to essential nutrition to support their focus and engagement throughout the school day. Our goal is to minimize the identification of students facing challenges with meal payments while maintaining the financial integrity of the nonprofit school food service account. To achieve this, we adhere to the following meal charge policy in alignment with guidelines provided by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP):

- A. All staff and students are expected to have funds to cover their meal purchases. Parents/guardians of students with negative balances will receive automated phone calls until the balance is settled.
- B. Students without adequate funds, and who have not been approved for free or reduced meals, will receive the same full balanced/reimbursable meal advertised on the menu for that day.
- C. Students without adequate funds will not be allowed to charge for ala carte items or extras.
- D. Schools may serve only one particular set of food items to students whose parents owe money, as long as the items comprise a reimbursable meal.
- E. If a student repeatedly attends school without lunch and money, food service employees must report this to the building administrator. This could be indicative of abuse or neglect, requiring proper authorities to be contacted.
- F. The school office personnel will coordinate communications with the parent(s)/guardian(s) to resolve unpaid charges.
- G. All accounts must be settled at the end of the school year. Before the last day of school, letters will be sent home to students with negative balances. Failure to settle negative balances may prompt the District to take action, including involving collection agencies, small claims court, or other legal methods deemed necessary.