

JGEMS Charging Policy

1. Federal Requirement:

The purpose of this policy is to address the need for school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) to institute and clearly communicate a meal charge policy, which would include, if applicable, the availability of alternate meals. Because all students in participating schools may receive reimbursable school meals, all SFAs must have a policy in place for children who are participating at the reduced price or paid rate, but either do not have money in their account or in hand to cover the cost of the meal at the time of service. Such a policy ensures that school food service professionals, school administrators, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations in these situations.

This requirement is referred to as a “policy,” but whether this is referred to as a “policy” or “standard practice” is at the discretion of the SFA. Regardless of terminology used, the policy or standard practice must consist of a written document explaining how the SFA will handle situations where children eligible to receive reduced price or paid meals do not have money in their account or in hand to cover the cost of their meal at the time of service. The policy or standard practice must be implemented throughout the SFA.

You can find more information about this US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) requirement at:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/unpaid-meal-charges>.

2. Purpose of Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent meal account procedures throughout the district. Unpaid charges place a financial strain on the food service department. The goals of this standard of practice are:

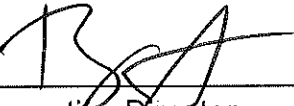
- To treat all students with dignity in the serving line regarding meal accounts.
- To support positive situations with district staff, district business policies, student and parent/guardian to the maximum extent possible.
- To establish policies that are age appropriate.
- To encourage parents/guardians to assume the responsibility of meal payments and to promote self-responsibility of the student.
- To establish a consistent school policy regarding charges and collection of charges.

Charging Policy:

1. Students will be charged \$3.00 per lunch.
2. Payments for lunch must be made directly to JGEMS in the form of cash or check. No online payment options.

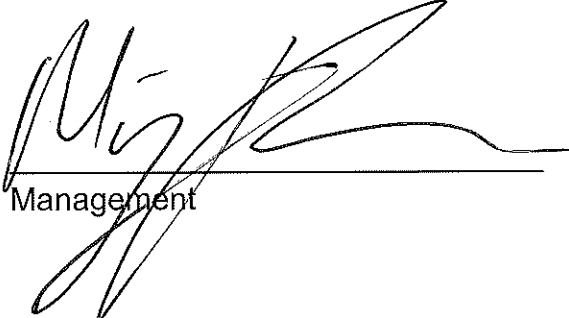
3. Student's with delinquent accounts of \$30.00 or more will not be permitted to purchase lunches until the account is brought current.
4. JGEMS will not provide alternative lunches for students with delinquent accounts in excess of \$30.00.
5. 6th and 7th grade students with excess funds in their lunch accounts will have those balances carried over to the next school year.
6. 8th grade students with excess funds in their lunch account will be refunded the excess at the conclusion of that school year.
7. Delinquent lunch accounts at the end of the school year must be paid prior to the conclusion of the current school year. If not paid off, negative balances will roll over to the next school year.
8. 8th grade lunch accounts with negative balances at the end of the school year will be subject to collections.

This policy was created and implemented by JGEMS' administrative staff.



Executive Director

2-2-23
Date



Management

02-02-23
Date