

Wiseburn Unified School District
Child Nutrition Department
Meal Charge Policy

Wiseburn Unified School District's Child Nutrition Department recognizes adequate nutrition is essential to a student's mental, physical, and academic growth. All students (grades K-8) whether at the free, reduced or paid rate, will receive a full reimbursable meal that meets USDA requirements in compliance under the Healthy Hunger – Free Act of 2010 (HHFA) regardless if they do not have adequate money to cover the cost of the meal at the time of service.

Elementary and Middle School Students who receive meals at the full paid price will be allowed to charge the equivalence of three (3) lunches to their meal account. If a student has reached this charge limit, they will be offered a Courtesy Meal (Alternative Meal).

Parents/guardians are responsible for keeping their student's account current by monitoring and depositing funds in the student's cafeteria account. A negative account balance must be paid off as soon as possible. Parents/guardians will be notified of their student's low balance (under \$10.00) and/or negative balance by way of an automated school messaging system no less than two times per week. Low and negative balance notifications are sent via email, U.S. mail and/or sent home with students.

In the case of repeated nonpayment by a student, according to the **Fair Treatment Act** passed in 2017, a food service/site staff member will notify a parent/guardian for the negative balance of a pupil school meal account no later than **10 days** after the pupil's school meal account has reached a negative balance.

If there is no response from the parent/guardian, the food service/site staff will turn over pupil's lunch account information for a follow-up at the School District level. D'Ann will exhaust all options and methods to assist the pupil for free and reduced-priced lunch and/or payment plans may be arranged.

Any positive balance on a student account will be rolled over into the following school year. Student account balances may be refunded, transferred between household members or donated to our department's Donation Fund and put towards district student accounts with negative balances.

The Direct Certification process will occur monthly throughout the school year in an effort to qualify students for free or reduced-price meals and meal applications are available on-line at:
wiseburnusd.schoollunchapp.com.