

LOWER MORELAND TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL LUNCH CHARGE POLICY

In accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture regulations, Lower Moreland Township School District is required to have and enforce a LUNCH CHARGE POLICY. A “meal charge” refers to those times that a student attempts to purchase foods without sufficient funding in their account.

Children from families whose incomes fall below a specified level may be eligible for a free or reduced-rate breakfast and lunch. Visit the District website for an application for free or reduced-rate meals.

Each student in the Lower Moreland Township School District may have a point-of-sale cafeteria account. Participation is voluntary. Parents/guardians may deposit money in advance on a student’s account using the online payment portal: www.myschoolbucks.com. Please visit www.lmtsd.org and click on the Food Services tab for more information.

Any student whose account reaches the charge limit (owes money for five or more meals) and who does not bring a lunch from home will be provided with the following choices:

Students in grades K-12 will be provided with a National School Lunch Program meal. All communications regarding overdue balances shall be done in accordance with Act 55 of 2017 and will only be communicated by parent(s)/guardians(s).

Negative balance status can be avoided by making a payment in the form of cash or check directly sent to the cafeteria cashier. Additionally, one can pay by credit card or check on the Food Service online payment system called www.myschoolbucks.com located on the District website under the Food Services section. When a student’s account exceeds the posted limits, his/her parent/guardian only will receive notification. Monies deposited to a negative balance account must first be used to satisfy the negative balance.

Balance reports for students with negative account balances will be run monthly and sent home to parents/guardians. Additionally, during the school year, automated phone calls will be made to parents whose students’ have a negative lunch account balance.

A la carte foods are not part of the School Lunch Program and cannot be charged if a student has a zero or negative balance on their account.

The District will continue to run Direct Certification downloads directly from the State in order to capture all students who can receive free meals through the direct certification process. The District will offer assistance to parent(s)/guardian(s) with applying for free/reduced meals if the student is not directly certified and will work directly with parent(s)/guardian(s) to establish a payment plan for delinquent debt.

When the District has utilized the collection procedures noted above and has continued to be unsuccessful in collecting the unpaid school meal debt (delinquent debt), the debt becomes bad debt and must be removed from the food service account by receiving a general fund transfer.