



## POLICY 364

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### I. PURPOSE

- A. This policy aims to ensure that students receive healthy and nutritious meals through the nutrition program of Lakes International Language Academy (“the School”).
- B. School employees, families, and students will have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges.

### II. PROVISION OF FREE STUDENT MEALS

- A. As long as the state of Minnesota maintains the Minnesota Free School Meals program, the School will follow it. All LILA students shall have the opportunity to eat a full breakfast and a full lunch at no cost to them or their families, with the cost to the school being reimbursable by the state, as intended by law.
- B. By ensuring the provision of two meals per day for all students, the School will maintain the dignity of each child and will prohibit removing these meals from students’ trays or any other way of shaming or ostracizing students who would otherwise have been unable to pay for meals.
- C. Once a reimbursable school meal is placed on a student's tray or otherwise served to the student, it will not be removed regardless of the student’s account balance or lack thereof. This includes students who have specifically qualified for Free & Reduced Price Meals and all other students as well.

### III. ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR PURCHASE

- A. Students in grades 1-5 will have the opportunity to purchase second full meals or second entrees provided there are funds available in their family-funded school meal account. In addition, students enrolled in grades 6 - 12 at the LILA Upper School will have the opportunity to purchase second meals, second entrees, or other a la carte items, provided they have funds available in their family-funded school meal account.
- B. All second meals, entrees, and other a la carte items must be prepaid via the School’s payment system (e.g. LILAPay or similar) before meal service begins. Electronic payments with credit or debit cards are to be deposited online in the students’ LILAPay accounts.
- C. Students will not be allowed to run a negative balance for second meals, second entrees, or a la carte items. These extra items are not included in the Minnesota Free School Meals program. If possible, students will be alerted to their low or depleted balance quietly and respectfully before choosing any of the extra items. Otherwise, students who take extras without having sufficient funds in their account will be asked to leave the item(s) in a designated space at the point of sale. This request will be made in a manner that does not draw attention to the interaction.
- D. The school will not contract with a collections agency to recover unpaid debt, as there will be no debt accumulated, given the MN Free School Meals Program.

#### **IV. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY**

- A. Links to this policy and any pertinent supporting information shall be provided (i.e., email, student handbook, e-newsletters) to:
  - 1. all households at or before the start of each school year;
  - 2. students and families who transfer into the School, at the time of enrollment; and,
  - 3. all School personnel who are responsible for enforcing this policy.
- B. The School must post this policy on the School website, in addition to providing the required written notification described above.
- C. If the School contracts with a third party for its meal services, it will provide the vendor with its school meals policy. The School must ensure that any third-party provider with whom the School enters into either an original or modified contract adheres to the School's school meals policy.

#### **REVISION HISTORY**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Status</b>		<b>Date</b>	<b>Status</b>		<b>Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
08/13/24	Adopted		10/8/24	Amended			