Avon Grove School District
Food Service Department

SCHOOL MEAL POLICY

To provide the best possible service in the cafeteria, a Computerized Point of Sale System using a barcoded ID card with PIN number is used to purchase breakfast, lunch, snack or milk in the cafeterias of the Avon Grove School District. All students have been assigned a personal identification number (PIN) and will receive an ID card which can be scanned for all purchases in the cafeteria. This number remains the same from K thru 12th grade. This system will provide complete confidentiality to those students receiving free or reduced price meals as all students in the school will have a PIN number and ID card and use the system in the same way.

PREPAYMENTS TO MEAL ACCOUNTS

All students or parents may prepay for meals by depositing cash or checks into the meal account. Prepayments are accepted at breakfast service and lunch service in the cafeteria. Parents may also prepay online via SchoolCafe. SchoolCafe offers the ability to view student account information and history online through the SchoolCafe.com website. Money deposited using SchoolCafe will usually arrive at the school site within a matter of hours. For this added benefit, a convenience fee will be added to the total payment amount of the transaction. *This fee is solely a processing fee by SchoolCafe and is not received by the Avon Grove School District.* Simply log onto www.schoolcafe.com and register the students using their district student ID number. A link can be found on our website, www.avongrove.org/district/foodservice.html.

NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS (NSF) CHECKS

Prepayment checks received and deposited by the AGSD Food Service Department which are returned unpaid by the bank due to non-sufficient funds or for any other reason, will immediately be deducted from the student's account. For the remainder of the school year, AGSD Food Service Department will not accept a prepayment check for deposit to the student's meal account. A letter informing the family of this action along with a copy of the notice from the bank will be mailed home. If a check is returned unpaid during the last two weeks of the school year, a phone call will be placed to the student home prior to the letter being mailed.

STUDENT MEAL ACCOUNTS AND CHARGES

All students who request a school meal may receive a school meal regardless of cash on hand or account balance. Students are permitted to charge one (1) complete student breakfast meal and one (1) complete student lunch meal daily. Schools are prohibited from denying a school food program meal to any student who requests one but does not have the money to pay for the meal at the time of service or in the student meal account. Schools may withhold meals from student *only* if they receive a written directive from a parent or guardian.

All students who do not have money to pay for an a la carte snack item **are not permitted** to charge or debit their meal account. Students with a negative balance will not be permitted to purchase any a la carte snack items until the charges are paid.

Negative balance reminder letters will be sent home after 5 meals have been charged and every other school day thereafter.

We encourage families to apply for Free or Reduced Priced Meal benefits by visiting SchoolCafe.com.

CARRY OVER BALANCES

Negative balances must be cleared up before the end of the school year. Delinquent debt will continued to be pursued and notices will continue until the debt has been paid.

All positive balances at the end of a school year will carry over to the next school year, following the student to their new grade and homeroom assignment. Graduating seniors will have three options regarding positive balances. They may choose to receive a refund or they may choose to transfer the balance of their account to a sibling's account or they may donate the balance for the benefit of another student.

Positive Balance Notifications will be sent to all graduating seniors requesting one of three options: refund, transfer the balance to a sibling or donate the balance for the benefit of another student.

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PROHIBITION AGAINST DENYING MEALS AND MILK TO STUDENTS AS A DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Disciplinary action that indirectly results in the loss of meals or milk is allowable (example: a student suspended from school).However, when withholding meals or milk is the disciplinary action, or the disciplinary action directly results in the loss of meals or milk, it is inconsistent with the regulation and not allowable. For example, school food authorities are to make a reimbursable meal or milk available to any student attending school who, for disciplinary reasons, is not allowed to eat in the cafeteria. Denial of meals or milk is inconsistent with Sections 2 and 9 of the National School Lunch Act and Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.