

**Policy: EFC**

**FREE AND REDUCED PRICE FOOD SERVICES**

The District shall take part, as feasible, in the National School Lunch and other food programs that may become available to assure that all children for whom this School Board is responsible shall have the opportunity to receive proper nourishment.

Parents shall be advised that this program is available and eligibility criteria shall be made public.

In accordance with the guidelines for participation in these programs, and in accordance with the wishes of the Board, no child who a teacher believes is improperly nourished shall be denied a free lunch, or other food, simply because proper application has not been received from his or her parents or guardian.

It shall be the policy in our schools that when school lunch is desired, payment is expected on that day or in advance by or for pupils not eligible for free lunches. Should there be any difficulty in obtaining such payment, the matter is to be resolved by direct contact with the parent (or student, if emancipated). No student is to be denied food as a disciplinary measure.

The administration shall establish and publish, as appropriate, procedures that conform to state and federal requirements and the intent of this policy regarding participation in programs for free/reduced price meals and supplementary food.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA 6601 et seq.

Adopted: August 20, 2004