

BOARD POLICY

Code No. 710.5

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MEALS CHARGES

In accordance with state and federal law, the Danville CSD adopts the following policy to ensure school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day, prevent the overt identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for school meals, and maintain the financial integrity of the nonprofit school nutrition program.

Payment of Meals

All meal purchases are to be prepaid before meal service begins. Students who do not have sufficient funds shall not be allowed to charge meals or a la carte items until additional money is deposited in the student account.

Students who qualify for free meals shall never be denied a reimbursable meal, even if they have accrued a negative balance from previous purchases. Students with outstanding meal charge debt shall be allowed to purchase a meal if the student pays for the meal when it is received. The school district may provide an alternate meal that meets federal and state requirements to students who have charged the maximum allowance to the student account and cannot pay out of pocket for a meal.

Negative Account Balances

The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low. Additionally, the school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. The school district will coordinate communications with families to resolve the matter of unpaid charges. Families will be notified of an outstanding negative balance once the negative balance reaches \$25 or 12 meals. Families will be notified by letter or email. Negative balances of more than \$50, not paid prior to end of the school year will be turned over to the superintendent or superintendent's designee for collection. Options may include: collection agencies, small claims, or any other legal method permitted by law.