

Eastern Hancock Middle/High School Meal Charging Guidelines

In the middle/high school cafeteria, we offer breakfast and lunch daily. We also offer a la carte items which can be purchased separately. A la carte items are not covered by the free/reduced-price meal program. A monthly hot lunch menu is available online through the school website. Students may also bring their lunch from home.

Each student has their own food service account. Payments can be made through the school website, via e-Funds for Schools. There is a small convenience fee which is explained when you register to make payments. If you are unable to make payments online, students can make payments at the registers during breakfast or lunch times. Families can use Skyward Family Access through the school website to view payments, purchases, and current balance. Families can also choose to receive low balance reminders. Just go to the Food Service tab, choose My Account at the top of the screen, scroll to the bottom and check the box to receive email notices when balance is under \$5.00. This is a helpful option in monitoring students' accounts and a good reason to make sure that your email address in Skyward is correct!

It is ultimately the parent/guardian's responsibility to provide meals for students through a positive account balance unless they have completed the application for, and qualify for, the free meals program. However, in striving to ensure that students receive nutritious meals, the School Board does recognize that circumstances may result in a student's need to charge lunch or breakfast on occasion and shall permit such charges within certain parameters.

In order to emphasize the importance of a nutritionally sound meal, students may charge a maximum of negative \$10.00 only when purchasing meals. No a la carte or "extra" items may be charged to an account with a negative balance. Community residents shall not be permitted to charge meals.

Significant negative lunch account balances (any balance owed in excess of \$10.00) shall not be permitted. If a student has a significant negative lunch account balance, s/he shall be provided an alternate meal. The alternate meal will be a low-cost alternative to the regular reimbursable meal and shall meet USDA nutritional standards so that it qualifies for reimbursement under the National School Lunch/Breakfast Program. Each student and household will receive email notices concerning negative account balances. Therefore, if a student who should be receiving an alternate lunch chooses to pick up a regular lunch tray, he/she will be required to trade it for the alternate lunch. If a student's account reaches a -\$10.00 balance on a repeated basis (more than 3 times a semester), they will no longer be able to charge to the -\$10.00. Also, each student can only receive 5 alternate meals per semester.

If you would like to apply for free or reduced-price meals, you can do so through the school website by logging into Skyward Family Access. If your student qualifies for free or reduced-price meals, that program only covers the cost of a full meal (breakfast and/or lunch). It does not cover the cost of any extra items including additional or individual milk. If you need assistance with the application process, please contact Tracy McCarty at 317-467-0064.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.