

Local Meal Charge Policy

- I. **Purpose:** The goal of Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy is to provide students with healthy meals each day. However, unpaid charges place a large financial burden on our Child Nutrition Department. The purpose of this policy is to insure compliance with federal reporting requirements for the USDA Child Nutrition Program, and to provide oversight and accountability for the collection of outstanding student meal balances as required by the Healthy Hungry Kids Act of 2010.

The intent of this policy is to establish uniform meal account procedures throughout Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy. The provisions of this policy pertain to regular and reduced priced school breakfast and lunch meals only. While the USDA Child Nutrition Program does not require that a student who pays for regular priced meals be served a meal without payment, Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy provides this policy as a courtesy to those students in the event that they forget or lose their lunch money.

II. **Policy:**

Full Pay Students – Middle School & High School Students will pay for meals at the district’s published standard rate each day. A student will be allowed to charge a maximum of \$20.00 to their account after the balance reaches zero. Once a student has charged \$20.00, the parent/guardian will be required to provide a sack lunch until the account is corrected.

Free Meal Benefit - Free status students will be allowed to receive a free breakfast and lunch each day. A la carte purchases must be prepaid or at time of purchase.

Reduced Meal Benefit - Reduced status students will be allowed to receive a breakfast for \$.30 and lunch for \$.40 each day. A student will be allowed to charge a maximum of \$20.00 to their account after the balance reaches zero. Once a student has charged \$20.00, the parent/guardian will be required to provide a sack lunch until the account is corrected.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for meal payment to the food service program. Notices of deficit balances will be sent to parents/guardians at regular intervals during the school year.