

The North Branford Food Service Department is a non-profit entity. As a result, we must cover all of our costs through the sale of meals, snacks and federal reimbursement received through the National Child Nutrition Programs. Therefore, the Food Service Department requires payment at the time of purchase in cash or debit from the student's account. Federal guidelines require all school districts participating in the NSLP to provide a Meal Charging Policy that is current and available to the general public and households review.

There are several options available to the student and parent to utilize when paying for school meals. North Branford Schools uses **REVTRAK**, an online payment system which allows funds to be placed on account for the student to draw down. There is a service charge for each deposit made per student account. REVTRAK deposits may take up to 24 hours to hit the account depending on the time of the actual online deposit. Students can also supply funds at the point of sale in the form of cash or checks to be deposited on the account. No fees are attached to this method. Positive balances still in the account are carried over from one school year to the next.

MEAL CHARGING POLICY

It is the responsibility of the parent to keep track of their students' school lunch account.

Jerome Harrison and Totoket Valley Elementary School students may be allowed a "grace period charge" up to three lunches. If no action is taken to improve the account standing then an "alternate meal" will be offered. The "alternate meal" will consist of a cheese sandwich, fruit, vegetable and milk. The "alternate meal" will increase the negative balance if no action is taken.

At North Branford Intermediate and High Schools there is **NO** charging. You must put money on account or by providing a check/cash at the point of sales.

We are not required to provide negative balance notices. As a courtesy, we will send a notice informing the parent/guardian that the moneys are overdue. If the balance is not paid after 5 days then you will need to provide a meal from home. If a student is without money or a lunch from home on a consistent basis, the school administration will investigate the situation.

Absolutely no charging of ala carte/extras items is permitted at any of the schools!

In the event that your family's financial circumstances have changed since the start of school, please contact the Food Services Department to find out if your family qualifies for free or reduced lunch opportunities. If your student enters the school year as a pay/reduced rate participant; then you reapply because of changing circumstances, to free status, you still must pay off your balance.

We encourage parents/guardians to check their student's account often. If you allow your student to pay for ala carte items with money on account be aware the funds can decrease quickly. Plan accordingly for low balances.

If the charge is not settled by the end of the school year, report cards will be held until the balance is paid in full.

If you should have any questions about your child's school meal account, the process of depositing funds or the charge policy procedure, please feel free to contact the Food Service Supervisor.