



U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Policy Memorandum SP 46-2016 requires all School Food Authorities (SFAs) operating federal school meal programs to notify student households of the Unpaid Meal Charge Policy. The Cambria-Friesland School District food service is an SFA under USDA policy, so this policy is posted on the District website and is provided to families annually via U.S. Mail, email, back-to-school packets, and/or student handbooks.

UNPAID MEAL CHARGE POLICY

Students will be permitted to purchase meals from the District's food service using either cash on hand or a food service account. Students may be permitted to accumulate negative food service account balance. A student shall not be permitted to purchase a la carte items without sufficient account balance or cash on hand. Likewise, any student that has a negative account balance may not purchase a la carte items with cash unless the student is also able to bring their account current.

A student who has exceeded the permissible negative balance amount in their account and does not have cash on hand sufficient to purchase a meal will be treated respectfully. The District will provide meals to students with unpaid meal balances without stigmatizing them, will provide parents of students who charge meals with notification when a student charges a meal, and will make efforts to collect the charges incurred by the students so that the unpaid charges are not classified as bad debt at the end of the school year.

If a student has a significant negative lunch account balance, they shall be provided a regular reimbursable meal that follows the USDA meal pattern, the cost of which shall continue to accrue to a negative lunch account balance.

Refer to Board Policies 8500, 8510, 8531, 8540, and 8550 for additional food service related policy.
