

### **Charlotte Valley Central School Meal Charge Policy**

It is our goal to ensure that all students receive healthy meals, as nutrition plays a critical role in a child's cognitive development. However, part of providing nutritious meals is maintaining the integrity of our school meal programs and this cannot be done without the necessary revenue. The cafeteria is a separate entity with its own very tight budget that relies on funds from the sale of meals to students who do not qualify for free/reduced status. When meals are given without payment, the quality of the program is diminished for all students.

Students may pay cash for meals at any time. Meals may be paid for on the day of service or the student's meal account may be funded in advance. School meal accounts may be funded via cash or check. Checks are encouraged as cafeteria staff will not be responsible for money that is lost before it reaches the cashier. Please send payments in a sealed envelope with child's full name and payment amount printed on the envelope. It is strongly recommended that parents/guardians make meal payments in advance.

If you are unable to pay for school meals due to economic hardship, please contact Mica Thorsland at (607) 278-5511 x8 or [mthorsland@oncbooces.org](mailto:mthorsland@oncbooces.org). School breakfast and lunch may be available to you at reduced price or no charge if you qualify. Free/reduced meal applications are available online, at the CVCS business office, and the cafeteria office. We strongly discourage meal charges (negative meal account balances). However, we understand that an occasional emergency may make it necessary. You may check your child's account balance on the CVCS website by going to [www.charlottevalleycs.org](http://www.charlottevalleycs.org) then choosing My Charlotte-Students-Links-MyMealMoney. The following policies will apply to student meal accounts beginning June 1, 2016 and will carry over to the 2016-17 school year...

#### Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> Policy:

-Any student with a negative balance on the day our report is generated each week will receive an automated phone call to inform parents/guardians of the situation.

Your prompt payment will be appreciated if you receive one of these calls.

-Any student with charges in excess of \$20.00 will receive an "alternative meal" until the account is funded and the balance is above the -\$20.00 threshold. This alternative meal will be a complete meal and **the student's meal account will be charged for this meal**. Alternative meals will consist of the following:

Breakfast: cereal, skim milk, fruit.

Lunch: Peanut butter or cheese sandwich, skim milk, vegetable and fruit.

\*Snack purchases will not be allowed (even with cash) for students who owe more than \$20.00.

#### Grades 9-12 :

Once a high school student's meal account balance falls below -\$50.00, no meal will be offered. At this point, the student's only options are to fund the account or bring food from home.

#### Adults:

No charges allowed. Negative balances are not permitted on adult accounts at any time.

Account balances are not eliminated at the end of the school year. All balances (positive or negative) are carried from one year to the next. Prior balances fall under the new policy. If your child has already accrued a sizeable negative balance, payment arrangements that will allow your child to continue receiving meals may be possible. If you need to make payment arrangements on an existing balance that was accrued before this policy became effective, contact the Superintendent at (607)278-5511.

**Charlotte Valley Central School - Revised Policy # 91**

**Adopted, readopted or revised by the Board of Education on:  
May 05, 2016**

**By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board of Education**