

## **Mount Pleasant Independent School District**

2230 N. Edwards Ave. P.O. Box 1117 Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456-1117

## MT. PLEASANT ISD FOOD SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY REGARDING THE CHARGING OF MEALS IN THE CAFETERIAS

Mt. Pleasant ISD is implementing the Community Eligibility Provision, which allows all students pre-k -12<sup>th</sup> grades to eat one reimbursable breakfast meal and one reimbursable lunch meal at no charge to their families. If Mt. Pleasant ISD would need to cease participation in the Community Eligibility Provision, the following charge policy would be in place:

Any student on any campus may charge 1 reimbursable lunch tray and 1 reimbursable breakfast tray each day subject to a 10 day charging limit. In order to allow an account limit this large, the following procedure must be followed:

Account notification letters are to be sent home with the students on a twice per week basis. 3 days after student charges his/her first meal, a letter will be sent home via the child alerting the parent that once the child reaches the 10 day limit his/her lunch choices will be limited.

When a child reaches the seventh day of charging, a letter is to be sent to the parent. The Cafeteria Manager will notify the Principal of the campus via email of the students who are approaching the 10 day charge limit.

Once the child has reached the 10 day charge limit, the Cafeteria Manager will send another letter to the parent via the student and call the parents to inform them of that their child will be receiving the most cost effective lunch on their next visit to the cafeteria. If the parent offers to make arrangements for payment for the child's lunch debt for a certain date, the Cafeteria Manager may allow the child to continue to charge a regular meal until the arranged time. If the parent fails to make payment by that date, then the cafeteria manager will ask that the child come to the cafeteria and will explain to the child that when he/she comes into the lunch room that their choices will be limited to the least expensive meal choice available. If the child refuses to follow directions from the Cafeteria Manager, the Cafeteria Manager will report the student to the campus Principal.

The Principal may choose to have his/her staff contact the parent to help reconcile the matter more effectively. There may be extenuating circumstances regarding the student's home situation that the Manager of the Cafeteria may not be aware of. It is crucial that the Cafeteria Manager keep the campus Principal constantly informed of the child's lunch account status. If the child's account is paid, the Cafeteria Manager is to notify the Principal immediately.

While it is necessary to enforce the policy for the financial wellbeing of the Food Service Department, it is essential that we avoid any possible embarrassment to the child. Low cost meals must be given to the child as discretely as possible.

No snack bar items, ala carte items or ala carte drinks may be charged. The only exception for charging any ala carte item applies to students who normally keep a positive balance (pre-pay) on their accounts. The individual Cafeteria Managers will determine which students may use this provision.

Updated MPISD Meal Charge Policy 7-13-2021

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