

Bridgman Food Service Department

Bridgman Meal Charging Policy

Bridgman Food Service Department is dedicated to providing healthy meals to all students according to the federal guidelines.

Parents are expected to prepay for student meals through their food service account and this "bank account" is decreased when meals and food are purchased. Parents can put limits or stipulations on their student's account if they wish. **This is a "prepay" system and therefore students/parents should not expect to charge meals and then pay later.**

Free Meal Benefit: Free status students will be allowed to receive a free breakfast and lunch each day. To make ala carte purchases students must have cash or funds in their lunch account.

Reduced Meal Benefit: Reduced status students will be allowed to receive a breakfast for \$.30 and lunch for \$.40 each day. To make ala carte purchases students must have cash or funds in their lunch account.

Full Pay Meal Benefit: Elementary school students will be allowed to receive breakfast for \$1.75 and lunch for \$3.00. Middle and high school students will be allowed to receive breakfast for \$1.85 and lunch for \$3.10.

The food service staff believes that all students need to be nourished in order to do well in school and daily life. Therefore, a student will not be denied a meal if money is owed. Ala carte purchases will be denied if there is not money in their account. Reminder notes, phone calls, and low balance emails will be made frequently to remind parents that their child owes money.

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to make sure that funds are available to purchase meals or send the student to school with a meal.

Once a full pay student reaches \$10 in charges, and reduced student \$3.00, without payment, the administration office will be notified and asked to help collect this debt. We will be happy to work with you to set up a payment plan, but you must make contact with us.

If the district has made contact by email, phone and letter with no payment or contact returned, your information will be passed on to a collection agency.

Per federal guidelines all debt must be paid by the end of the school year and can't be carried over to the next year. Positive student balances will be carried over to the next year.

Questions or concerns please contact Peggy Ferguson (269) 466-0228 or pferguson@bridgmanschools.com