



## **Los Gatos Union School District Child Nutrition Department Meal Charge Procedure**

### **School Lunches**

The Governing Board recognizes that students need adequate, nourishing food in order to grow, learn, and maintain good health. The Food Service/Child Nutrition Program analyzes the nutritional value of all school lunches to assure that they meet the nutritional needs of our students and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Breakfast and lunch are provided every day at all district schools. Meal accounts can be prepaid or paid with cash in hand daily. The district has a Point of Sale system with pre-pay options. Look for a flier to come home with your student at the start of the school year. Meal prices are as follows:

#### **Elementary School prices:**

- Breakfast Paid \$2.50
- Breakfast Reduced \$0.30
- Breakfast Adult \$3.00
- Lunch Paid \$3.75
- Lunch Reduced \$0.40
- Lunch Adult \$4.25
- Milk \$.75

#### **Middle School prices:**

- Lunch Paid \$4.00
- Lunch Reduced \$0.40
- Lunch Adult \$4.50
- Milk \$.75

#### **Free and Reduced Price Meal**

Parents/ guardian may apply for free & reduced price meals through a confidential application process. Free lunches are available at all schools for student who qualify based on family income. If you now receive Food Stamp, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWorks), Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payments (Kin GAP), Food Distribution on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits, or Medicaid your child may receive free meals. Free breakfasts are also available at all schools. A new letter and application outlining the free meal program is distributed to all students each year as required



by the federal government. For information about this program, call the Child Nutrition Department at (408)335-2382. Free lunch applications are located in each school office or can be filled out online by going to [www.ezmealapp.com](http://www.ezmealapp.com) . Only one application is required per family.

### **Meal Charge Procedure**

Students and Adults are expected to pay cash daily or pay in advance for all food purchases. The district does recognize that occasionally students may forget to bring money to school or their parent/guardian may let the account balance lapse. To ensure that no student goes hungry, the district will enforce the following policy for students:

#### **Free & Reduced Price students:**

**Free Meals:** Students who qualify to receive free meals should never have a negative balance. The USDA allows one free breakfast and one free lunch daily. Additional meals or a la carte purchases may be purchased at full price with cash in advance.

#### **Reduced-Price Meals:**

Students approved for reduced-price meals are expected to pay the reduced price of their meals either daily or in advance. Reduced price students will never be denied a meal if they are unable to pay. Students will however be charged and their account will become negative until the balance is paid. Food Service staff and school site staff may assist in collection efforts to bring the account current. Parents will be notified of their delinquent balance by paper slip home with their student, phone call to the home, and any other efforts necessary.

**All other Students:** Parents are expected to keep their child's lunch account current. Parents are responsible for any negative balance accrued by their student(s). Students who have no money on their account will be allowed to charge the meal of their choice for up to \$7.50. After a student has reached a negative balance of \$7.50 the student will be allowed to receive a breakfast (bagel & fruit), or lunch (sandwich & fruit) and will continue to be charged at the full breakfast and lunch price. Food Service staff and school site staff may assist in collection efforts to bring the account current. Parents will be notified of their delinquent balance by paper slip home with their student, phone call to the home, and any other efforts necessary.

**Adults:** are never allowed to charge a meal or a la carte purchase causing their account to become negative. Adults are encouraged to set up a pre-paid account.