

P6-11-001 School Meal Program

A. The School Nutrition Program in Henrico County is planned so as to provide the following:

1. An opportunity for elementary, middle, and high school pupils to purchase at a minimum price nutritionally adequate meals which comply with USDA requirements. A la carte food and beverage items are also available for purchase.
2. Facilities that safeguard the pupil's health and provide opportunities for him to observe and develop sound sanitary practices. School nutrition staff observes the rules and regulations of the local and state departments of health and education. Kitchens are inspected regularly by the local sanitarians.
3. An opportunity for pupils to have an enjoyable meal together in an attractive environment and to develop not only good food habits but also to develop desirable social practices and good citizenship standards.
4. An opportunity for those pupils who bring their meals from home to purchase flavored or unflavored homogenized Grade A milk at a minimum price.

B. The sale of food items in schools during the lunch and breakfast periods shall be limited to those items approved by the Director of School Nutrition Services, and the income from the sale of those items shall accrue to the School Nutrition Services account.

C. Employees of Henrico County Public Schools do not require a student who cannot pay for a meal at a school or who owe a school meal debt to throw away or discard a meal after it has been served to the student, do chores or other work to pay for such means or wear a wristband or handstamp.

D. Employees of Henrico County Public Schools will direct notice of low or negative balances in a student's meal account to the student's parent. Notice can be in the form of a letter, a phone call, or through electronic communication to the parent. Staff will use all possible discretion to avoid calling attention to a student's inability to pay.

E. The School Board does not file lawsuits against a student or the student's parent/legal guardian because the student cannot pay for a meal at school or owes a school debt. When it is determined that "delinquent debt" is uncollectable, as in cases when the student withdraws from HCPS, it shall be considered "bad debt." Bad debt may not be absorbed by the non-profit food service account and must be restored using non-Federal funds. These funds may come from the school district's general fund, special funding from State or local governments, or any other non-Federal sources.

Last Revised: **June 2020**, March 2020, July 2008

Legal Refs.: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1758, 1772, 1773.

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-79.7, 22.1-207.2:2, 22.1-207.3, 22.1-207.4, 63.2-1509.

8 VAC 20-740-10.

8 VAC 20-740-30.

8 VAC 20-740-35.