

Dear Springfield Local Schools Families,

We would like to share important information regarding school breakfast and lunch meals and student meal account balances.

Springfield Local Schools' Food Service Department does **not** provide free meals to all students. In accordance with the Ohio Department of Education and Office of Child and Nutrition Programs, families must complete a Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application to determine eligibility. If your family has not completed an application or your children do not qualify for free or reduced-price meals, your children will be responsible for the cost of their school breakfast and lunch.

Important Information About Meal Charges

For students attending **Springfield High School, Springfield Middle School, and Holland Intermediate School**, if a student has a lunch in hand when they reach the point-of-sale at the end of the serving line, the meal will be charged to the student's meal account. If there are insufficient funds in the account, this may result in a negative balance that will need to be paid.

For students attending **Springfield Elementary Schools**, students with a negative meal account balance will receive an alternative meal in place of the regular school meal. The alternative meal will include:

- A PB&J Uncrustable, or a cheese sandwich for students with an allergy
- Fruit
- Vegetable
- Milk

There is **no charge for the alternative meal**.

The Food Service Department is able to manage negative balances at the elementary level because students make a meal choice each day. Families with a negative meal account balance will receive an email **every Friday at 2:00 p.m. throughout the school year** as a reminder of the outstanding balance.

Adding Money to Your Child's Meal Account

Families may add money to their child's meal account in either of the following ways:

Cash or Check:

Bring cash or a check to the school your child attends.

Debit or Credit Card:

Visit the Springfield Local Schools website at www.springfield-schools.org and click on **EZSchoolPay** to create or access your account and make a payment.

We encourage all families to monitor their child's meal account balance regularly and to complete a Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application if they have not already done so.

Thank you for your attention to this important information and for helping us ensure that all students have access to meals each school day.

Sincerely,

Springfield Local Schools Food Service Department