

2016-2017 Meal Purchasing Policy – Groom ISD

1) **Meal Prices** are set by the Board upon recommendation of the administration. Factors influencing meal prices include:

- 1) current USDA reimbursement rates for meals,
- 2) cost of food, and
- 3) cafeteria overhead expenses.

Student Pricing

2015-2016 Current Meal Prices	
Breakfast	\$1.25
Lunch	\$2.50

Adult Pricing

2015-2016 Current Meal Prices	
Breakfast	\$
Lunch	\$

2) **Charge Policy (Accounts with a \$0 Balance):**

- A. Students will be allowed to charge meals or other food items up to a maximum of \$20.00 {Approximately 5 days of meals}
(Exception – students with delinquent balances from former years will not be allowed to charge meals),
- B. Upon reaching the \$20.00 charge limit – students will be offered alternative meals until the account has a positive balance **(No child will go hungry),**
- C. Alternative meals will be charged at a cost-basis rate only,
- D. After reaching the charge limit, without payment of the account, the student account will become **“cash basis only”** – meaning that the student will be served cafeteria meals only on a cash pay basis which means to have a positive account balance or cash in hand - (they will remain eligible for alternative meals – if necessary) ,
- E. The account will stay on a **“cash basis only” status, meaning no charges,** until it has a positive balance of at least \$20.00. Students will be served meals at any time they have a positive balance in the account; however, the ability to charge lunches will not be restored until the account reaches the desired minimum positive balance.

3) Parent Notices

- A. Notices will be mailed to the official address of the students' parent or guardian on file with the district at the following intervals:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low Balance Notice when the account reaches \$25.00 (7 days of Full Meals)• Notice when the account reaches \$10.00 (3 Days of Full Meals) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charge Limit Notice/Alternative Meal Notice when the account reaches a negative balance of \$10.00. (3 Days of Full Meal Charges Remaining) |
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- B. Parents may set additional account balance thresholds for notification within the "My School Bucks" web portal at www.myschoolbucks.org . This software allows for balance notifications by e-mail and/or text.

4) Former Year(s) – Delinquent Accounts

- Delinquent Accounts - Meal accounts will be considered delinquent when payment in full is not received by **August 1** following the school year,
- The online payment portal can be utilized to place money on a student's account for the **CURRENT school year only** – families owing money from a prior year must submit those payments directly to the school business office,
- NO CHARGE POLICY – DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS – CASH ONLY BASIS**

<p>Effective August 22, 2016 – Students with delinquent meal accounts from prior years will not be allowed to charge meals in the current year – they will be served meals only with a positive balance in their current account. These students will be eligible for alternative meals should their account reach have ZERO balance in the current year.</p>
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Final account balance notices will be mailed to parents/guardians by **June 15** following the completion of the school year. Refunds due to parents will be processed at that time.

*Bills paid by **August 1 following the school year** will not be considered delinquent.*

Additional Notice of an Unpaid Account Balance will be mailed to parents/guardians by **July 15** following the school year.