

FOOD SERVICES

Generally

Employees of Buckingham County School Board do not require a student who cannot pay for a meal at school or who owes 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 meals, or wear a wristband or hand stamp.

The School Board does not file lawsuits against a student or the student's parent because the student cannot pay for a meal at school or owes a school debt.

Neither the Buckingham County School Board nor any employee of the Board denies any student the opportunity to participate in any extracurricular activity because the student cannot pay for a meal at school or owes a school meal debt.

The Buckingham County school division provides free and reduced-price breakfasts, lunches, and milk to students according to the terms of the National School Lunch Program, the National School Breakfast Program, and the Special Milk Program.

If any school division has a student population that qualifies for free and reduced-price meals at a minimum percentage of 50 percent in the prior school year and simultaneously offers educational or enrichment activities, the School Board applies to the Virginia Department of Education for such school to participate in the Afterschool Meal Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition (FNS) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to subsequently and simultaneously serve federally reimbursable meals and offer an afterschool education or enrichment program pursuant to FNS guidelines and state health and safety standards.

Competitive foods, as defined herein, comply with state and federal requirements.

The Buckingham School Board may solicit and receive any donation or other funds for the purpose of eliminating or offsetting any school meal debt at any time and will use any such funds solely for such purpose.

Free and Reduced Price Food Services

School officials determine student eligibility based on guidelines established by federal law. Eligible students are provided nutritionally acceptable meals and milk free or at a reduced cost if state and federal resources for school food programs are available. The superintendent or superintendent's designee establishes regulations or procedures as needed to implement this policy.

The criteria for determining a student's eligibility and the procedures for securing free and reduced-price meals and milk is publicly announced at the beginning of each school year and provided to parents of all children in attendance at Buckingham County public schools.

If the School Board collects information to determine eligibility for participation in the National School Breakfast Program or the National School Lunch Program, it posts prominently on its website a web-based application for student participation in such program and provides a paper-based application.

Employees of Buckingham County School Board do not physically segregate, overtly identify, or otherwise discriminate against any child eligible for free or reduced price meals.

The superintendent is responsible for establishing procedures by which excess food may be distributed to enrolled students eligible for the School Breakfast Program or National School Lunch Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, saving excess food for later consumption, or donating food. The superintendent's procedures identify which students are eligible to receive excess food.

Definitions

“Competitive food” means all food and beverages other than meals reimbursed under programs authorized by the National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 available for sale to students on the school campus during the school day. Competitive foods meet the nutrient guidelines established by the Board of Education, including the guidelines for calories, fat, sugar and sodium.

“Excess food” means any remaining unexpired, unopened, and unconsumed food intended to be served as part of a reimbursable meal that was unable to be utilized for a current or future meal provision after a school has served breakfast and lunch to students during a school day.

"Fundraiser" means a school-sponsored activity where food or nonfood items are sold on the school campus during regular school hours by a school-sponsored organization to raise money for a school-related program or activity. One fundraiser is defined as one or more fundraising activities by one or more school-sponsored organizations that last one school day. If multiple school-sponsored organizations conduct fundraisers on the same day, the combined activities are counted as one fundraiser. If a fundraising activity lasts more than one school day, each subsequent day's activity is considered as one fundraiser and counts toward the total number of permitted fundraisers.

“School campus” means all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the school that are accessible to students during the school day.

“School day” means the period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.

School Sponsored Fundraisers

Each school may conduct 30 school-sponsored fundraisers per school year during which food that does not meet the nutrition guidelines for competitive foods may be available for sale to students. Fundraisers are not conducted during school meal service times.

Charging of Meals and A la Carte Items

Buckingham County school division provides free breakfast and lunch meals to all students under the Community Eligibility Provision or CEP. Afterschool Snack Program is a federally assisted snack program. This program provides free snacks to all students that are enrolled in education or enrichment activities, distinct from any extracurricular programs organized primarily for scholastic, cultured or athletic purposes.

A selection of a la carte snacks and meal options are available daily for all students. These foods are offered in addition to the complete school lunch or breakfast. These items are priced to purchase with cash. No a la carte items may be charged to a student's meal account. Money to purchase a la carte items can be placed on a student's meal account by visiting MyschoolBucks.com.

Recordkeeping

The Buckingham County School Board is responsible for maintaining records that document compliance with this policy. Those records include documentation used to assess the nutritional profile of food items and determine whether a food item is an allowable competitive food, such as recipes, nutrition labels and/or product specifications for the competitive food available for sale to students.

The School Board is also responsible for

- maintaining records documenting compliance with the competitive food nutrition standards for food available for sale in areas that are outside of the control of the school nutrition programs operations,
- ensuring any organization or school activity designated as responsible for food service at the various venues in the school, other than the school nutrition programs, maintains records documenting compliance with the competitive food nutrition standards,
- maintaining records each school year documenting the number of exempt fundraisers, if any, conducted at each school within the division, and
- designating an individual at the division or school level to monitor and ensure compliance with this policy in all areas that are outside the control of the school nutrition programs operation. The designee may not be a school nutrition personnel.

Adopted:
August 9, 2000

Revised:
January 8, 2003 Reference Revision

August 12, 2009

December 10, 2014

May 10, 2017

July 10, 2019

April 8, 2020

July 15, 2020

June 23, 2021

October 13, 2021

July 13, 2022

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

7 C.F.R. §§ 210.9, 210.11, 220.20, 245.5, 245.8

U. S. Department of Agriculture, SP 23-2017 Unpaid Meal Charges:
Guidance and Q&A, March 23, 2017

U.S. Department of Agriculture, SP 47-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges:
Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments, July 8, 2016.

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.

8 VAC 20-740-40.

Cross Ref.:	GAE	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting
	JHCF	Student Wellness
	KH	Public Gifts to the Schools