



Northern York County School District

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Dr. Eric C. Eshbach
Superintendent

Mr. Jason R. Beals
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Mr. Jason A. Young
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Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you may be aware, late in 2017 the Pennsylvania General Assembly amended the Pennsylvania School Code through Act 55 of 2017. This bill became law on November 6, 2017. One of the provisions of this amendment was in regards to School Districts providing a meal to students who had insufficient funds to pay for the meal and the necessary communication to parents or guardians of those students. I write to help clarify the new law and also how NYCSD will be addressing the law.

Section 1337 of the School Code adds the following items:

1. Students must be provided a meal every day, regardless of the ability to pay,
2. District's must try to encourage parents to register for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program,
3. District's must direct all communications to parents regarding unpaid balances,
4. District's should not engage in "meal shaming". This means that students who cannot pay or who have credit balances will receive a regular lunch.

For the most part, these changes will not affect NYCSD as the administration has been using these guidelines for the betterment of the student and family for many years. Adequate and proper nutrition is a vital part of every student's day and contributes to the health of the student body. We continue to operate under the philosophy that no child should be deprived of adequate and proper nutrition.

NYCSD will continue the current process of notifying parents when a student has an overdrawn account. This process will be in the form of both an email and/or a letter sent home to the parent. The District is now required to have a notification process in place and to encourage families to apply for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. Administration can offer assistance in the application process when needed. Please contact the District's Food Service Department at 717-432-8691, ext. 1111 with any questions or need for assistance in the application for free and reduced lunches.

Over the years, NYCSD has incurred a significant amount of student debt from unpaid meals. The District has communicated such debt on an individual basis in efforts to collect these funds. A collection agency has not been used in the past, however the Administration is looking into this option which would begin in 2018. The collection agency would send certified letters, send bills, make home visits, and/or pursue legal action.

Lastly, donations to help students in need that may be homeless, have a family hardship, or have balances before applying for Free or Reduced status are always permitted. All donations are tax deductible and a receipt would be generated from the Business Office. If an individual or group is interested in making a donation to help offset charges of a student or group of students, please contact the Food Service Coordinator, Scott Shedlock sshedloc@nycsd.k12.pa.us or 717-432-8691 ext. 1111, for more information.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Young', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Jason A. Young, CPA, PRSBA
Business Manager
Northern York County School District