## Lindale ISD

## Dear Parent:

The goal of the Lindale ISD is to provide students with healthy meals each day. However, unpaid charges place a large financial burden on our Food Services Department. The purpose of this policy is to insure compliance with federal reporting requirements for the USDA Child Nutrition Program, and to provide oversight and accountability for the collection of outstanding student meal balances.

Policy Full Pay Students - Elementary and Middle School Students will pay for meals at the district's published standard rate each day. A student will be allowed to charge up to \$10.00 maximum meals only. Once a student has gone over the \$10.00 charge limit, he/she will not be allowed to charge a la carte items, however he/she will be offered a designated menu alternate. Sample: Grilled cheese sandwich, vegetable or fruit and milk. This designated menu alternate no cost to the student.

High School Students - Policy Full Pay Students – High School Students will pay for meals at the district's published standard rate each day. A student will be allowed to charge up to \$10.00 maximum meals only. Once a student has gone over the \$10.00 charge limit, he/she will not be allowed to charge a la carte items, however he/she will be offered a designated menu alternate. Sample: Grilled cheese sandwich, vegetable or fruit and milk. This designated menu alternate no cost to the student.

**Free Meal Benefit** - Free status students will be allowed to receive a free breakfast and lunch each day. A la carte purchases must be prepaid.

**Reduced Meal Benefit** - Reduced status students will be allowed to receive a breakfast for \$.30. As of September 1, 2023- Reduced-Price Breakfasts are now Free in Texas and lunch for \$.40 each day. As of September 1, 2025 Reduced-Price Lunches are now Free in Texas. A student will be allowed to charge up to \$10.00 maximum meals only. Once a student has gone over the \$10.00 charge limit, he/she will not be allowed to charge a la carte items, however he/she will be offered a designated menu alternate. Sample: Grilled cheese sandwich, vegetable or fruit and milk. This designated menu alternate will not be charged to the child's meal account.

**Parents/Guardians** are responsible for meal payment to the food service program. Notices of low or deficit balances will be sent to parents/guardians at regular intervals during the school year.

**All school cafeterias** possess computerized point of sale/cash register systems that maintain records of all monies deposited and spent for each student and said records are available by setting up an account at <a href="https://www.lunchmoneynow.com">www.lunchmoneynow.com</a> or by speaking with the cafeteria manager.

**Students/Parents/Guardians** pay for meals in advance via <a href="https://www.lunchmoneynow.com">www.lunchmoneynow.com</a> or with a check payable to Lindale Food Service. Further details are available on our webpage at <a href="https://www.lindaleeagles.org">www.lindaleeagles.org</a>. Funds should be maintained in accounts to minimize the possibility that a child may be without meal money on any given day. Any remaining funds for a particular student will be carried over to the next school year.

**Refunds** for withdrawn, and graduating students; a verbal or written request for a refund of any money remaining in their account must be submitted. An e-mail request is also acceptable. Students who are graduating at the end of the year will be given the option to transfer to a sibling's account.

**Unclaimed Funds** must be requested within one school year. Unclaimed funds will then become the property of the Lindale Public School Food Service Program. **Balances Owed** collection of owed balances will follow the policies and procedures set by Lindale School Board

Cindy McClenny Director of Child Nutrition Programs

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