

Iowa Valley Community School District Lunch Program Information



The IVCS District Nutrition Service Department is a self-operating program. To maintain equality for all families and financial stability for school districts, the USDA is requiring written documents, as of July 1, 2017, how we will be handling situations where children, either eligible to receive reduced-price or paid meals, do not have money in their lunch/breakfast account or in hand to cover the cost of their meal at the time of service. The USDA is recommending that negative balances should not be acceptable.

Changes will also be reflected in IVCS District Board Policy 710.1.

Iowa Valley Community School District provides a variety of services for parents to ensure their child(ren) have adequate funds for meals.

- Parents may monitor student accounts from home using their “PayForIt” or Power School accounts. Parents/Guardians may set their own personal limits when to be notified.
- Power School Alert or text messages will be sent daily to parents/guardians for negative \$0.01 or below balances.
- Online pre-payments with a debit/credit card may be made.
- Cash or check payments are accepted at your child’s school office.
- Assistance with Free/Reduced Lunch Applications is available at each office.
- If your family is experiencing financial difficulty, you may contact a building administrator or district superintendent to develop a payment workout plan. Outstanding meal charges at the end of the year will be applied to the student’s fee statement and will carry over until paid in full.

Negative Account Balances

Elementary (grades K-6):

1. Students may charge any combination of meals (breakfast and/or lunch) up to a negative balance of \$10.00.
2. When the \$0.00 charge limit is reached, the following will be enforced:
 - a. No snack milk/juice for grades K-6.
3. Power School Alert or text messages will be sent daily to parents/guardians for negative \$0.01 or below balances.
4. Payments can be sent to the elementary office or online through “PayForIt.”
5. Technology devices will not be allowed to go home with students for those with a negative balance but may be used throughout the school day.

Jr./Sr. High School (grades 7-12):

1. Students may charge any combination of meals (breakfast and/or lunch) up to a negative balance of \$10.00.
2. A la carte items may only be purchased with a positive account balance.
3. If a student with a negative balance attempts to purchase a la carte items with cash, the money must first be applied to the negative balance.
4. Power School Alert or text messages will be sent daily to parents/guardians for negative \$0.01 or below balances.
5. Payments can be sent to the central office or online through “PayForIt.”
6. Students will be verbally notified of their account balance at the cash register when the balance falls below \$10.00.
7. Technology devices will not be allowed to go home with students for those with a negative balance but may be used throughout the school day.

Employees:

1. Employees may also establish meal accounts. An employee’s meal account balance may not fall below zero (\$0.00).
2. Employees may set up a notification message through “PayForIt” or can check their balance through Power School.
3. Payments can be sent to the employee’s main office or online through “PayForIt.”

Thank you for your cooperation with our local meal charge policy.