

# Parent Portal & Online Payment Center

- mySchoolBucks.com is an online program for parents/guardians.
- mySchoolBucks.com works with the district's school meals program.
- Parents/guardians can create an account for free.
- A free account allows parents/guardians to:
  - View their student's meal choices;
  - View their student's account balance;
  - Request automatic email alerts to low balance.
- For a \$1.95 fee, parents/guardians can:
  - Make a payment or pre-payment to their student's account;
  - Schedule payments or prepayments;
  - Set up auto deposits to their student's account.
  - The fee does not benefit Quabbin Regional School District.
  - A guide to assist in creating a free account is available at <u>www.qrsd.org</u> or by calling the Superintendent's office.

#### THE COLLECTION PROCESS

Please understand that the Quabbin Regional School District School Committee and administration wish to work with parents/guardians of its students to assist in any way possible to bring student school meals accounts current, but to do so you must contact us.

- 1) Weekly letters from Principal to parent/guardian for all accounts with negative balance of \$5.00 or more.
- 2) Letter and/or email to parent/guardian from Director of Food & Nutrition for all accounts with negative balance of \$15.00 or more.
- Letter and/or email to parent/guardian from administration for all accounts with no payment or contact after Director's communication.
- 4) Failure to bring account into good standing within ten (10) days will result in:
  - a. Referral of account to collections agency
  - b. Initiating a claim in court.
  - c. Notification to appropriate state agencies.
- 5) If a student's account balance exceeds \$-25.00, the administration may:
  - a. Prohibit participation in any future program requiring a fee (field trip, athletics, fundraiser).
- 6) At the end of a trimester or school year the administration may:
  - a. Prohibit other students within the household from participating in any future program requiring a fee
- 7) If a senior's account is not in good standing as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, the administration may:
  - Prohibit the senior from participating in senior activities and/or graduation exercises.



872 South Street Barre, MA 01005 www.qrsd.org



# A guide to School meals & our charge policy Amended January 2016

To view the full School Committee Policy EFA, visit the district's website at <u>http://www.grsd.org/school</u> -meal-charges-policy/

OR call the Superintendent's Office to request a paper copy.

Quabbin Regional School District

978-355-4668

# A Guide to School Meals and our School Meals Charge Policy

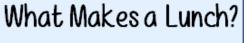
# BACKGROUND:

- The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) governs the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).
- The USDA reimburses public schools for a portion of the costs of school lunch and breakfast.
- Quabbin Regional School District participates in the NSLP and in the SBP for some district schools.
- QRSD must follow USDA regulations in order to receive reimbursement.
- Each student has a school meals account.
- All purchases made in the school meals program will be recorded in the student's meals account.

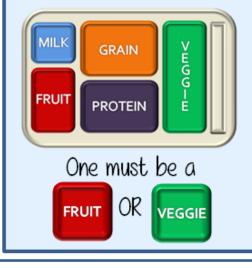
## **METHOD OF PAYMENT**

The Quabbin Regional School District accepts cash for daily meals at the register. It also accepts pre-payment of school meals in the form of:

- **o** Cash or check at the register
- Online payment via the district's online school meals payment center, mySchoolBucks.com



# Select 3-5 Components



#### UNDERSTANDING A REIMBURSABLE MEAL

Students with Free or Reduced-Price status must take a "Reimbursable Meal" for it to be free or at reducedprice. Otherwise, they must pay full price.

What is a reimbursable meal? One that consists of  $\underline{at}$ <u>least 3</u> of the 5 offered components.

What is a component? Think of it as a food group.

## A LA CARTE & 2<sup>nd</sup> MEALS

A la carte items are any one component of a meal, a snack, bottled water, bottled juice or milk. These items are individually priced and are not part of a reimbursable meal. A second meal can be up to all 5 items or just a second entrée. This meal must be charged at full price.

A la carte and 2<sup>nd</sup> meals cannot be charged.

Prices for meals are set by the Quabbin Regional School District School Committee within parameters set by federal or state regulation.

## SCHOOL MEALS ELIGIBILITY STATUS:

Eligibility status is defined by the USDA as Paying, Reduced Price or Free.

## Paying Status:

- Students may take any or all components offered each day for the price of the meal.
- Students are allowed to charge meals up to \$15.00 before the collection process begins.

### Reduced-price Status:

- Students are eligible for one reduced-price reimbursable lunch and, if available, breakfast per day.
- If the meal selected does not meet reimbursable meal requirements, the meal selected is full price.
- Students are allowed to charge meals up to \$4.00 before the collection process begins.

# Free Status:

- Students are eligible for one free reimbursable lunch and, if available, breakfast per day.
- If the meal selected does not meet reimbursable meal requirements, the meal selected is full price.
- Students are not allowed to charge.

Second entrees or second meals and a la carte items cannot be charged. Cash or pre-paid funds on account are acceptable for these items.