## **MEAL CHARGE POLICY**

Eastmont School District recognizes that adequate nutrition is essential to a child's mental, physical and academic growth. Parents are responsible for either providing their children with meals, applying for free or reduced price meals when appropriate, or providing money for their child to purchase meals.

Families may apply for free/reduced meals anytime during the school year. Applications are provided to all families in the district each August, prior to the start of the school year. In addition, applications are available online on the Food Service Department webpage at <a href="https://www.eastmont206.org">www.eastmont206.org</a> or at school offices.

All children participating in the District's school meal programs, whether at free, reduced or paid rates, will receive a full reimbursable breakfast and/or lunch meal that meets USDA requirements regardless if they do not have adequate money in their student's account to cover the cost of the meal at the time of service. Each student may have a point of sale cafeteria account to manage meal charges. Parents may view their child's food service account balance at any time by utilizing this District provided online point of sale software. Access to this software is available on the Food Service Department webpage at www.eastmont206.org.

A negative account is the responsibility of the child's parent/guardian. However, under no circumstance will the child be denied a meal due to a lack of money or a negative food account balance. In addition, an "alternative meal" will not be used as a substitute as this identifies the child as having a delinquent account.

Staff and other adults will be required to have money in hand or on account. They are not allowed to charge meals or à la carte purchases.