Price of Meals

I. Price Structure for Meals and Food Items

A. Lunches served under the National School Lunch Program are planned and priced as a unit. Students are offered meals including five components: protein, grains, fruit, vegetables, and milk for the unit price. Students must select three of the five components, with at least one being a fruit or vegetable, for a complete meal. Students selecting less than three components, or a lunch without a fruit or vegetable component, have not chosen a reimbursable meal and, therefore, are charged a la carte prices for their selections.

B. Breakfasts served under the National School Breakfast Program are planned and priced as a unit. Students are offered four components of a school pattern breakfast for a unit price. Students selecting three or four of the four components, with at least one being a fruit or vegetable, have selected a reimbursable meal and are charged the unit price. Students selecting less than three components, or a breakfast without a fruit or vegetable component, have not chosen a reimbursable meal and, therefore, are charged a la carte prices for their selections.

C. Prices for school lunch, breakfast, and a la carte food items are established with consideration of the financial status of the School Food and Nutrition Services Program.

D. Adult meal prices and a la carte prices are established to cover the total cost of producing the item including food, labor, supplies, equipment, and any indirect cost, as no reimbursement is received for these programs.

E. School Food and Nutrition Services employees are the only adults eligible to receive free meals, as they are required to taste meals as a tool for quality control.

F. Payment for meals or food items must be made at the point of purchase in cash, or through a prepayment or charge recorded electronically in the “Point of Sale” (POS) system.

II. Prepayment for Meals

A. Students or adults can prepay for the purchase of breakfast, lunch, milk, and various a la carte items.
B. Prepayments can be made daily in each school cafeteria at a designated time in advance of the serving period.

C. Prepayments can be made on site with cash or checks or online via credit card. All monies received for these prepayments shall be deposited and accounted for daily.

D. School Food and Nutrition Services staff accepting prepayments shall record the prepayment date, the amount paid, and the name of the student or adult making the purchase in the “POS” system.

E. Prepayments are not refundable unless the adult or student is moving out of the county. Prepayments can be transferred between schools in Prince William County.

The Associate Superintendent for Support Services (or designee) is responsible for implementing and monitoring this regulation.

This regulation and related policy shall be reviewed at least every five years and revised as needed.