

Hanover Public Schools

Matthew Ferron
Superintendent of Schools



Keith Guyette
Director of Student Services

Deborah St. Ives
*Assistant Superintendent
for Curriculum & Instruction*

Thomas Raab, Ed.D.
*Assistant Superintendent
for Business & Finance*

MEMORANDUM

To: Hanover School Committee
From: Thomas R. Raab, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance
Cc: Matthew A. Ferron, Superintendent of Schools
Lynn Petrowski, Director of Food Services
Date: October 24, 2018
Re: Lunch Debt Policy

Thank you to everyone for providing feedback around this very important issue. Here in Hanover we never deny student's access to a school lunch. All students are provided lunch regardless of ability to pay or outstanding debt. We work hard to remind families of any outstanding debt including frequent emails to parents and monthly letters home. I have heard concerns over proposed lunch debt collection procedures in addition to those mentioned. We need to amend and evaluate the proposed lunch collection procedures that were attached in a separate document. Toward that end, I respectfully request that the School Committee approve the policy as stated below. It simply states that we do not deny food and guarantee nutritious meals to all students. I will take the time over the next month to work with the Food Services Director to develop procedures that are acceptable to all. Thank you.

STUDENT MEAL CHARGE POLICY

Hanover Public Schools recognizes that healthy, nutritious meals are an important component to student readiness and ability to learn. Additionally, Title 7, CFR 210.10 General Nutrition Requirements states, "Schools must provide nutritious and well-balanced meals to all the children they serve".

In accordance with this regulation, Hanover Public Schools will not deny any student access to school lunch. However, by statute, the district's Food Service Department is a self-supporting fund that shall not carry a student's negative balance forward at the close of the fiscal year.

In order to ensure compliance of all who participate in the school meal program procedures for methods of meal payment, charging parameters, and debt collection methods have been incorporated into the school nutrition department policy and procedures manual.

LEGAL REFS: 7 CFR 210, Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87
M.G.L. Chapter 71: Section 72. Sales of Lunches
HHFKA, Public Law 111-296