

Negative Balance Policy (Board Policy enacted ...input date)

The Beardstown School District Cafeteria Department is a self-operating program. In order to maintain financial stability and equality of all lunch paying students amidst an ever-growing school district, policies regarding lunch accounts have been adopted. The Illinois State Board of Education recommends that negative balances should not be acceptable. The Beardstown Board of Education desires to be able to deliver quality meals in a fiscally responsible way and your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Negative Balance Policy

After a student's account is negative by **\$15.00 or more**, notification will be given to the student. *Your child's lunch balance is always available online through the Parent Portal under Lunch Accounts.* If the parent/guardian does not make payment to the lunch account, the cafeteria will provide a peanut butter sandwich and milk for lunch. Payment for these items will be charged to the student's account. If the account remains delinquent it may also affect the student's ability to receive breakfast.

Negative Balance Carryover

Negative balances will be carried over to the following school year. These negative balances must be taken care of prior to the start of the school year as a part of the school registration process. Parents with accounts with a negative balance will be asked to send a lunch from home until negative balances have been taken care of.

**** If there is financial hardship free and reduced priced meals are available to those families who qualify. Please contact the building office if you would like to apply. This can be temporary depending upon your family situation.*