

## **School Meals Policy**

Northwest Passage High School #4049-07 participates in the Minnesota Free School Meals program as outlined in Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 124D.111, subdivision 1. In addition, this policy is to ensure that school district employees, families and students have an understanding of the expectations regarding unpaid meal charges.

### **Meal Service**

Northwest Passage High School #4049-07 participates in the Minnesota Free School Meals Program, and therefore all enrolled students will be offered one breakfast and one lunch at no charge while at school regardless of an outstanding meal balance. Once a meal has been placed on a student's tray or served, it will not be taken away by the cashier or any school official, regardless of the student's meal account status. All reimbursable meals offered meet state and federal guidelines. We will not provide an alternate meal unless related to a dietary need.

### **Point of Service**

For Northwest Passage High School #4049-07 to receive State and Federal reimbursement for meals served, each student must be identified at the point of service.

We will be utilizing the JMC point of service and the keypad option it offers.

All students will be treated respectfully and in accordance with Minnesota Statute 2024, section 124D.111, subdivision 5.

Payment for A La Carte and Extra Entrees will not be allowed at the Point of Service

### **Nonprogram Food Sales**

To meet the non-program food revenue requirement, the nutrition program must charge and accrue revenue for items outside of the reimbursable breakfast and lunch it chooses to sell.

Nonprogram Food Sales are any food or beverage sold outside of the reimbursable meal. Choose one of the following:

Northwest Passage High School does not allow students to purchase food, beverage or second meals in addition to the reimbursable meal(s).

## **Unpaid Meal Charges**

Prior year unpaid meal charges

The Minnesota Free Meals Program does not address debt incurred before the program's implementation. Once an unpaid meal account is determined to be uncollectable, Northwest Passage High School does not use a collections agency to collect the funds.

School Nutrition Funds cannot be used to repay previous years' debts per 2 CFR Part 200.426.

## **Current year unpaid meal charges**

The Minnesota Free School Meals Program pertains only to reimbursable meals.

New to program, no students have outstanding meal accounts

Once an unpaid meal account is determined to be uncollectable, Northwest Passage High School does not use a collections agency to collect the funds

## **Communication Policy**

This policy and any pertinent supporting information will be provided in writing (i.e., mail, email, back-to-school packet, student handbook, etc.) to:

- All households before the start of each school year;
- Students and families who transfer into the school district, at the time of enrollment
- All school district personnel who are responsible for enforcing this policy.

Northwest Passage High School #4049-07 will post this policy on the school district's website, in addition to providing the required written notification described above.

Northwest Passage High School #4049 will ensure that any third-party provider with whom the school district enters into either an original or modified contract after July 1, 2021, adheres to the school district's school meals policy. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Nondiscrimination Statement In accordance with federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers

The program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and teletypewriter [TTY]) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.