

POLICY

VERNON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF EDUCATION

OPERATIONS
8500/Page 1 of 2
Food Services
Apr 05
Jan 16

8500 FOOD SERVICES

The Board of Education recognizes the midday meal as an important part of each pupil's school day. The Superintendent shall ensure a wholesome, nutritious food services program in the district and one which reinforces the concepts of nutrition education as taught in the classrooms of this district.

The Board shall provide food service facilities for the consumption of food on school premises. All pupils not expressly excused by the Principal shall be expected to remain at school for lunch.

The operation and supervision of the food services program shall be the responsibility of School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

The district shall participate in the Federal School Lunch Program.

In order to ensure that the nutritional needs of district pupils are met, the Board directs the organization of a nutritional advisory committee composed of administrators, food service personnel, teachers, parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and pupils interested in the nutritional program of the district. The committee shall make its recommendations to the Superintendent.

The Food Service Program shall be operated on a nonprofit basis. All moneys derived from the operation, maintenance, or sponsorship of the food service facilities shall be deposited in the Food Service Account. The net cash resources of the food service account shall be made by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. Any surplus funds shall be used to reduce the cost of the service to pupils or to purchase cafeteria equipment.

The Superintendent shall ensure the maintenance of sanitary, neat premises, free from fire and health hazards, for the preparation and consumption of food and the safekeeping and storage of food and food equipment in strict compliance with regulations of the New Jersey State Department of Health.

Good nutrition is essential to learning and the Vernon Township School District does not want any child to go hungry in school. Our goal is to serve nutritionally balanced meals to our students at lunch. We encourage all families that qualify to participate in the National School

Lunch Free and Reduced Price Meal Program. For those who do not qualify for the program, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to see that their children have a lunch prepared at home or money to purchase a lunch at school.

- Elementary and middle school students who have a negative balance of three charges or more will receive an alternate lunch as follows:
 - Turkey sandwich or cheese sandwich
 - Milk
 - Carrot sticks
 - Fruit

(Alternate lunches will be charged the complete lunch price)

- High school students who do not have funds to pay for their lunch will be offered the alternate lunch listed above and charged the complete lunch price.
- No ala carte snack purchases will be allowed if any charge money is owed.
- Three-plus charge notices will be sent home biweekly from the cafeteria.
- All negative balances owed notices will be sent home monthly from the cafeteria.
- Verbal reminders will be made daily from the cashier.
- For your convenience Mealtime online payment system has an e-mail low balance notification system.

Families may apply for free/reduced meals at any time during the school year. Applications are provided to all families prior to the school year. In addition, applications are available at the District Office, all school offices, and the district website.

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-42.1; 18A-33-3 et seq.; 18A:58-7.1

N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.5 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 8:24-2.1 through 7.5

Adopted: April 2005

Revised: February 2015; **January 2016**