

CENTRAL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 71

NEGATIVE LUNCH BALANCE POLICY

The State of Illinois enacted the Hunger – Free Students’ Bill of Rights Act in August, 2018. This act requires every school: elementary, middle and secondary, participating in the National School Lunch Program, in the State of Illinois, to provide a Value Meal Lunch to any student who requests a lunch regardless of the student’s ability to pay or amount of money owed for earlier lunches received.

GUIDELINES FOR CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

1. Students who request a lunch will receive a Lunch from the “Hot Lunch” Line according to the student’s lunch status and the ability to pay or the amount of money owed for earlier lunches received. The “Hot Lunch” meal will be charged to the student’s lunch account.
2. Central District #71 will not provide a student with an alternative lunch that is different from the “meal of the day” served to the students.
3. Central District #71 may not prohibit or prevent a student from accessing the school’s lunch program.
4. If a student owes money for lunches that is more than the amount charged for five lunches, the office will send Negative Balance emails month. This communication serves as a reminder to parents or guardians in order to collect owed money and to request that the parent or guardian apply for meal benefits in the National School Lunch Program.
5. Negative Lunch Balance Notices will be emailed to the parent on the 1st Wednesday of each month.
6. Negative Lunch Balances shall be paid to the Central High School office or through the Student Portal in Skyward.
7. If the amount owed for lunches by the student and payable to Central High School is no less than \$500 and the office has sent Negative Lunch Balance emails in efforts to collect the debt from the student’s parent or guardian for at least one year, Central High School may seek assistance for collection under the State Comptroller Act.
8. Central High School will not identify nor stigmatize a student who cannot pay for his or her lunch. Central CHSD #71 will provide all students the “Hot Lunch” meal of the Day. Students from Central High School will not receive ala carte/snack items but will receive Hot Lunch meal of the Day. The Hot Lunch meal of the Day includes: meat/meat alternate, breads-grains-pasta, vegetables, fruit and milk. Contact the Main Office with questions at 618-526-4578