



## Unpaid Meal Charge Policy

Date Originally Adopted: 6/21/2017

Revisions:

Related Documents:

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### **Background:**

Kona Pacific was founded to serve our community of South Kona, Hawai'i Island. As an area of low-income, one of the primary ways in which we serve our community and make our educational program accessible to our community is our nutrition programs. These programs provide healthy, nutritious meals for our students, students at other area schools, and hundreds of our community's most disadvantaged and vulnerable members.

The link between good school nutrition and students' academic success is well established. Studies show that students who eat regular, healthy meals are less likely to be tired, are more attentive in class, and retain more information, among other benefits.

The goal of Kona Pacific PCS' school nutrition program is to provide nutritious meals to children throughout the school day, without regard for their ability to pay.

### **Unpaid Meal Charge Policy:**

No student will be denied service due to an overdue meal balance. Every student who requests breakfast or lunch without adequate funds in their meal account will receive the meal of the day. At the end of each school year, unpaid meal balances will be forgiven.

### **Unpaid Meal Charge Policy Procedures:**

The following procedures have been established to support student access to meals and to manage students' meal balances:

1. At the beginning of each school year, we encourage all families to complete a Free and Reduced Price Lunch Application. Families who qualify for free or reduced lunch are able to receive breakfast and lunch at little or no cost.
2. Families that qualify for reduced meals or pay full price are encouraged to deposit money into their student's lunch account at the beginning of the month in order to stay ahead on payments.
3. Beginning October 15<sup>th</sup> of each year, and once every other month thereafter, families with outstanding balances will receive a notice from the nutrition program and are encouraged to pay the outstanding balance within 10 school days.