

## **FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS**

The Biddeford School Department shall take part, as feasible, in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs and other food programs, which may become available to assure that all children for whom the School Committee is responsible shall have the opportunity to receive proper nourishment.

Parents shall be advised that this program is available and eligibility criteria shall be made public.

In accordance with the guidelines for participation in these programs and in accordance with the wishes of the School Committee, no child who a teacher believes is improperly nourished shall be denied a free lunch, breakfast or other food simply because proper application has not been received from his/her parents/guardians. No student is to be denied food as a disciplinary measure.

It shall be school policy that when school lunch/breakfast is desired, payment is expected on that day or in advance by/for pupils not eligible for free meals. Should there be any difficulty in obtaining such payment, the matter is to be resolved by direct contact with the parent (or student, if emancipated). The maximum allowed "on account" for purchase of hot lunch/breakfast shall be three (3) days, and no credit shall be allowed after May 1. All outstanding student accounts are expected to be paid prior to the end of the academic year.

The Superintendent/designee shall implement and communicate, as appropriate, regulations, which conform with state and federal requirements and the intent of this policy regarding participation in programs for free/reduced price meals and supplementary food.

Adopted: March 22, 1994

Revised: April 27, 1999, January 10, 2006

**BIDDEFORD SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**