

## Policy for Students without money for meals at Sweetwater Elementary

### I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure compliance with federal reporting requirements for the USDA Child Nutrition Program, and to provide oversight and accountability for the collection of outstanding student meal balances.

The intent of this policy is to establish uniform meal account procedures throughout Sweetwater School Way Cafe. The provisions of this policy pertain to full pay and reduced-priced school lunch meals only. While the USDA Child Nutrition Program does not require that a full pay student or reduced-priced student be served a meal without payment, Sweetwater School Way Cafe has established this policy as a courtesy to students without lunch money.

NOTE: This policy is school administration-based and may vary between schools.

### II. Policy

A student will be allowed to charge a maximum of 2 meals to their account at their normal meal price. Once a student has charged 2 meals, he/she will be offered an alternate meal of a cheese sandwich and a juice at \$.40, (substitutions will be made for documented food allergies), which will also be charged to the student's meal account.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for meal payment to Sweetwater School Way Café. Notices of deficit balances will be sent to parents/guardians at regular intervals during the school year.

Students/Parents/Guardians may pay for meals in advance via cash or with a check payable to: *Sweetwater SWC* or you can pay [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Please note this service does have a minimal fee. Funds should be maintained in accounts to minimize the possibility that a child may be without meal money on any given day. Any remaining funds for a student at the end of the school year will be carried over to the next school year.

School Way Café uses computerized point of sale/cash register systems that maintain records of all monies deposited and spent for each student and said records are available by setting up an account at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com).

No ala carte charges or purchased items are permitted for students with a negative balance.

If a student is without meal money on a consistent basis, the administration will investigate the situation more closely and take further action as needed. If financial hardship exists, parents and families are encouraged to apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits for their child by visiting: <http://myvolusiaschools.org/schoolwaycafe/Pages/Free-and-Reduced-Meal-Applications.aspx> to apply for meal benefits.

Currently, breakfast is complimentary to all students enrolled in Volusia County Schools; however, this service may be discontinued at any time.