

SCHOOL MEAL CHARGE POLICY

The goal of the Dieringer School District is to provide a nutrition program for students that offers breakfast and lunch meals. There may be times when students have insufficient funds to purchase school meals. This policy is designed to address those situations in such a way that no student is stigmatized or denied a meal.

Purchase and Account Balance

Parents may access their child's meal account online through Skyward Family Access at <https://wa-dieringer.intouchrecepting.com/>. Please contact your child's school if you need assistance to create your user name and password required to access Skyward Family Access.

Parents may choose to select low balance notification in Skyward Access when the balance in their child's account is positive but low.

Parents will receive a courtesy notification when their child's account balance between \$2 and - \$.50 up to three times a month. Lunch accounts with a negative balance will receive automatic email notifications nightly.

Payments

The district accepts checks and cash payments that are sent to school with the student; please make sure the payment is in a sealed envelope with the student's first and last name clearly marked.

Parent/guardians may also make online payments at <https://wa-dieringer.intouchrecepting.com/> or by credit card at the school office.

Charging Limits and Negative Account Balances

Parents will be notified by email when their student owes \$.50 or more. Parents/guardians are asked to check their email for the automatic, computer generated notices. The system will allow negative balances to accrue on a student's account. If the parent/guardian is unable to pay an account with \$10 of unpaid food service charges, they are asked to call the Child Nutrition office at 253-826-7108 or email ctrudeau@dieringer.wednet.edu to make payment arrangements. The Child Nutrition office will communicate account balances and payment reminders directly to parents/guardians by email and phone.

The District is required to maintain records related to meal charges, debt collection and bad debt. Negative balances are expected to be paid off by the end of the year; balances, positive and negative are carried over to the next school year. The Child Nutrition office will provide account statements, including payments and purchases, upon request. Eighth grade students with a positive balance at the end of the year will be given a refund form; parents may request a refund or ask that the balance be transferred to the account of a sibling.