

EMPOWERMENT ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL  
240 Ege Street  
Jersey City, NJ 07304



## **FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM POLICY**

The district's school lunch program shall make a nutritionally adequate lunch available to every pupil and shall operate on the most economically feasible basis. It shall be operated in strict compliance with all laws and regulations pertaining to health, sanitation and safety; internal accounting; employment practices; nutritional standards; costs of lunches; and periodic reporting required by New Jersey law.

The board of trustees believes that regularly consumed nutrition supports student achievement. Students are better able to concentrate in school and have more energy when they have regular meals. The board considers lunch to be an essential educational tool. In the same way students with the support of their parent/guardians are expected to come to school adequately dressed, with the necessary books and completed assignments, all students with the support of their parents shall come to school with preparations having been made for their individual lunch.

Qualified students whose families have a financial hardship shall be encouraged to apply for assistance in accordance with our Free or Reduced Price Meal Policy. The procedures for the administration of the free and reduced-price meal program of this school district will be the same as those prescribed in current state and federal laws and regulations.

The board shall strive to make affordable meals available to all students. Students who do not qualify for free or reduced price meals or milk, shall receive school lunch through the school lunch program for a fee that is established by the board. Any student who has a hardship but does not qualify for free and reduced price lunches or milk, may be considered for other assistance on a case by case basis.

The purchase of meals through the school lunch program shall be optional and shall not prevent any student from bringing their own lunch to school.

The Business Administrator or designee shall develop and implement procedures for the responsible accounting and tracking of revenues and expenses generated by the school lunch program. The Head Dean or designee shall oversee the notification of parents/guardians for the payment of charges and arrears associated with the school lunch program.