

9R Lunch Policy Suggestions

- **Set up district-wide donation fund through Durango Education Foundation**
 - Heavily advertise this new way of helping to our community
 - Adds cohesiveness and organization
 - Principals can request funds when needed and/or funds can be evenly dispersed to schools on a regular basis (annually, semester, quarterly, etc.)
- **Add Autopay function to meal payment system**
 - Debt would be on credit card company rather than district
 - Make sure kids can only charge one meal per meal time unless approved by parents
- **Give and charge for one full meal instead of partial meal**
 - Schools are charging and chasing down parents for the money either way (since we charge for partial meals too)
 - Removes lunch shaming/embarrassment caused by partial meals
 - Kids have full bellies for better learning outcomes
 - District looks good and is ethically sound
- **Remove partial meal policy and strengthen parent contact for a year**
 - Current partial meal policy and parent reminder system were implemented at the same time (3 years ago). Effectiveness of each cannot be determined without teasing them apart.
 - Remind those in charge of contacting parents that this is an important part of their job. Implement clear guidelines around this task (frequency, persistence, empathy, asking how we can help, etc.)
- **Fix Reduced Lunch Policy discrepancy on 9R Food & Nutrition web pages:**
 - ["All reduced students eat breakfast for free and pay \\$0.40 per day for lunch unless they are registered as Pre-K through 5th grade, then they eat lunch for free as well."](#)
 - ["PK-8 families with students on the reduced plan eat breakfast and lunch for free."](#)

Feel free to contact me with any questions:

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