FREE AND REDUCED NUTRITIONAL SERVICES

The Board of Education of School District Fremont RE-1, recognizing the need for established criteria to be used in the determination of eligible patrons for free and reduced price meals, do hereby set forth these basic policies:

- 1. The Nutrition Services Manager has been designated as the official to determine which children are eligible for a reduced price or free meal.
- 2. The Nutrition Services Department will provide forms to parents or guardians with information and application for consideration of eligibility of reduced price or free meals for their children. This application form and its content is a part of the policy.
- 3. If the application is denied, the parents or guardians may appeal this decision to the Director of Support Services at the school district—administration office, and a hearing will be conducted. The hearing procedure will be conducted as prescribed in Section 9 of the National School Lunch Act, as amended. During the pendency of the hearing, the child will continue to receive a reduced price or free lunch. The hearing procedure for families and school food authorities is a part of this policy.
- 4. The district will abide by the national minimum poverty guidelines as issued by the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and other criteria for eligibility.

The district will provide a release to all informational media in the area at the same time the notice is sent to the home.

A household may apply for benefits at any time during the school year. If there are any changes to circumstances in the household, they are encouraged to re-apply and/or notify the district office of school nutrition.

No child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or handicap.

In order to protect the anonymity of the children receiving reduced price or free meals, the child nutritional services department will provide a method to collect payments from children which prevents the overt identification of the children receiving free or reduced-price meals.

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