

Book	Policy Manual
Section	5000 Students
Title	SCHOOL LUNCH PERIODS
Code	po5140
Status	Active
Adopted	May 7, 2007
Last Revised	July 25, 2018

## 5140 - **SCHOOL LUNCH PERIODS**

According to safety experts and the Upper Arlington Division of Police, open lunch at the elementary and middle level may expose younger students to risk due to the lack of required supervision. Further, at the high school level, open lunch creates a steady flow of people in and out of the building, making it difficult to track who is inside and outside of the building at any given time. Consistent with safety recommendations, this Policy is adopted in order to promote the safety of students and staff and to better enable school staff to accurately track who is at school.

### **Elementary School Lunch Periods**

Elementary students must remain at school during assigned elementary school lunch periods.

### **Middle School Lunch Periods**

Middle school students must remain at school during assigned middle school lunch periods.

### **High School Lunch Periods**

Except as provided below during the phase out of open lunch, high school students must remain at school during assigned high school lunch periods.

The Board shall phase out open lunch at the high school level. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, all high school students must remain at school during assigned high school lunch periods.

### **2018-2019 School Year**

Freshman\* students must remain at school during assigned high school lunch period(s).

Sophomores\*, juniors\*, and seniors\* are expected to eat lunch and remain on the school campus during assigned lunch periods, but are eligible to leave school campus during lunch periods with written parent/guardian permission.

### **2019-2020 School Year**

Freshman and sophomore students must remain at school during assigned high school lunch periods.

Juniors and seniors are expected to eat lunch and remain on the school campus during assigned lunch periods, but are eligible to leave school campus during lunch periods with written parent/guardian permission.

### **2020-2021 School Year**

Freshman, sophomore and junior students must remain at school during assigned high school lunch periods.

Seniors are expected to eat lunch and remain on the school campus during the lunch periods, but are eligible to leave school campus during lunch periods with written parent/guardian permission.

Permission for eligible students to leave school campus during lunch periods will be granted by the Principal or designee only upon written request of the parent/guardian.

During the phase out of open lunch, parents wishing to request permission for their eligible student(s) to leave the school campus during lunch periods **throughout the school year** must complete Form 5140 F1 and return it to the Principal or designee.

During the phase out of open lunch, parents wishing to request permission for their eligible student(s) to leave the school campus during the lunch periods on a given day must submit a written note to that effect no later than the morning of that day.

### **General Rules and Definitions**

All students may be signed out by a parent/guardian for the lunch period by following the building protocol. Absences from lunch will not be counted as absences, though truancy and absence policies will apply for students who leave early or return to school late and miss instructional time.

If a student leaves the school campus during a lunch period **with** appropriate permission (parent and Principal/designee), the parent(s) and student become responsible for the student's behavior and safety. Any student who leaves the school campus (approved or unapproved) during the lunch period is subject to all provisions of the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

If a student leaves the school campus during a lunch period **without** appropriate permission, the parent(s) and student become responsible for the student's behavior and safety, **and** the student is subject to disciplinary action as found in the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, Rules and Regulations for Major Infractions.

\*For purposes of this Policy, a student's status as a freshman, sophomore, junior and senior is established based on his or her anticipated graduating class at the time the student first entered high school as a 9<sup>th</sup> grade freshman. For a student who transfers, is credit deficient or who earns additional credits towards early graduation, his or her class status and open lunch eligibility will continue to be based on the anticipated graduating class when the student first entered high school as a 9<sup>th</sup> grade freshman.