**TO: HARDIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**FROM: Nannette Johnston, superintendent**

**DATE: april 17, 2014**

**SUBJECT: 2014-15 MEAL PRICES**

**ISSUE:** Each year meal prices must be set and approved by the local board of education.

**FACTS:**

Full-price meals in Hardin County Schools are $2.30 for lunch and at $2.55 for super value at high schools. Students at all schools received breakfast meals without cost to the students. With these prices and revenues from our catering and ala carte programs, we are slowly regaining our required operating balance that is suggested as a minimum by the State Department of Education.

Due to the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization – The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (S.3307/P.L. 11-296), we are required to increase our paid meal category 10 cents annually. Details below:

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| **Sec. 205. Equity in school lunch pricing** | * Effective SY beginning July 1, 2011, schools are required to charge students for paid meals at a price that is on average equal to the difference between free meal reimbursement and paid meal reimbursement; Schools that currently charge less are required to gradually increase their prices over time until they meet the requirement; Schools may choose to cover the difference in revenue with non-Federal funds instead of raising paid meal prices. * Establishes a maximum annual increase in the required paid increases of 10 cents annually, but allows schools to establish a higher increase at their discretion. |

Food prices are expected to rise in 2014 - 2015. <http://www.forecast-chart.com/inflation-food-price.html> The Forecast-Chart.com website is forecasting that Food Inflation Rates will be roughly 5.52% over the next year.

After working on our budget for next year and meeting with Mr. Milby, we feel that by increasing meal prices, which is being done nationwide, and adjusting labor at most schools to meet recommended meals per labor hour, we could and should still offer the breakfast program at no charge to the family. This is a great service to our students touching many households and I’ve heard concern from teachers and parents over the possibility of losing this program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Due to the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization – The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (S.3307/P.L. 11-296), we are required to increase our paid meal category 10 cents annually.

Hardin County Child Nutrition Program would like to recommend that meal prices be as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| **Lunch:**  Full price student: $2.40  Super Value Lunch $2.65  \*Reduced price student: $0.40  Adult meal prices: $3.30 | **Breakfast:**  Full price student: $0.00  \*Reduced price student: $0.00  Adult meal prices: $2.00 |

\*Maximum allowed by federal law.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**:

I move that the Hardin County Board of Education approve meal prices for the 2014-15 school year: lunches will be $2.40 at all levels and super value meals at high school will be $2.65; adult lunches will be $3.30; breakfast at no charge for all students; adult breakfast $2.00