



Fayette County Public Schools

Executive Summary Fayette County Public Schools Board Meeting Agenda Item

MEETING: Planning

DATE: 4/13/2026

TOPIC: Approval of Meal Price Increase for School Year 2026-2027

PREPARED BY: Michelle Coker

Recommended Action on: 4/27/2026

Action Item for Vote (REGULAR MEETING)

Superintendent Prior Approval: Yes

Recommendation/Motion: Approve Meal Price Increases for 2026 - 2027

Background/Rationale: School Program regulations in 7 CFR 210.14(e) require school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program to ensure sufficient funds are provided to the nonprofit school food service account for meals served to students not eligible for free or reduced-price meals. There are two ways to meet this requirement, either through the prices charged for “paid” meals or through other non-Federal sources (District Funds) provided to the nonprofit school food service account. Several factors have contributed to the Child Nutrition account Fund 51 to sustain losses in recent years. This includes a paid meal gap whereby current meal prices do not cover the cost of production for food, labor, and supplies. The district loses money on every paid meal served, leaving federal reimbursements for free meals to carry the program's losses. A price increase for paid meals is needed to correct this imbalance, furthermore, the Kentucky Department of Education has stated that the district must use the Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) requirements for 2026 - 2027 as there was a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2025. While there have been significant increases in food, labor and supply expenses in recent years, student meal prices have not increased since 2022 - 2023. Free meals remain available to all students qualifying for free and reduced-price meals.

Strategic Priority:

- Student Achievement Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging
- Highly Effective & Culturally Responsive Workforce
- Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach Organizational Health & Efficiency

Data Considerations: Fund 51 Fund Balance, General Fund Balance

<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Paid (all grades)	\$2.00	\$0.50	\$2.50
<u>Lunch</u>			
Paid (Pre K-5)	\$2.75	\$0.75	\$3.50

Paid (6-12)	\$3.00	\$0.75	\$3.75
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Policy: Policy 07.1; 7 CFR 210.14(e); USDA Memo Code SP 15-2014; Healthy Hunger Free Kids Reauthorization Act of 2010, Sec. 205

Fiscal Impact: Generate Revenue for Fund 51

Attachments(s): Current and Proposed Pricing Breakdown

CURRENT PRICING

Meals	Cost Per Meal	Student Paid Revenue	Federal Reimbursement	Total Revenue	Loss Gain
Elementary Breakfast	2.78	2.00	0.40	2.40	-0.38
Middle/High Breakfast	2.78	2.00	0.40	2.40	-0.38
Elementary Lunch	3.66	2.75	0.46	3.21	-0.45
Middle/High Lunch	3.66	3.00	0.46	3.46	-0.20

PROPOSED PRICING

Meals	Cost Per Meal	Student Paid Revenue	Federal Reimbursement	Total Revenue	Loss Gain
Elementary Breakfast	2.78	2.50	0.40	2.90	0.12
Middle/High Breakfast	2.78	2.50	0.40	2.90	0.12
Elementary Lunch	3.66	3.50	0.46	3.96	0.30
Middle/High Lunch	3.66	3.75	0.46	4.21	0.55