



Fayette County Public Schools

Executive Summary Fayette County Public Schools Board Meeting Agenda Item

MEETING: Planning

DATE: 6/8/2026

TOPIC: Approval of Meal Prices for School Year 2026-2027

PREPARED BY: Michelle Coker

Recommended Action on: 6/8/2026
Action Item for Vote (PLANNING MEETING)

Superintendent Prior Approval: Yes

Recommendation/Motion: Approve Meal Price 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. The proposed meal fee schedule will address this imbalance. While there have been significant increases in food, labor and supply expenses in recent years, the fee schedule has not change since 2022 - 2023. Free meals remain available to all students qualifying for free and reduced-price meals. No student will be denied a school meal based on ability to pay.

Strategic Priority Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging
 Highly Effective & Culturally Responsive Workforce
 Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach Organizational Health & Efficiency

Data Considerations: Fund 51 Fund Balance, General Fund Balance

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

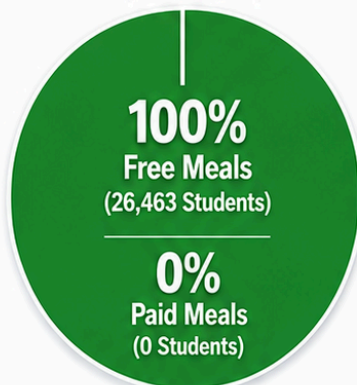
Attachments(s): Current and Proposed Pricing Breakdown

	CEP Campuses	Non-CEP Campuses	F/R Students
Breakfast	\$0	\$2.50	\$0
Lunch (PreK - 5)	\$0	\$3.50	\$0
Lunch (6-12)	\$0	\$3.75	\$0

Student Meal Status by School Category

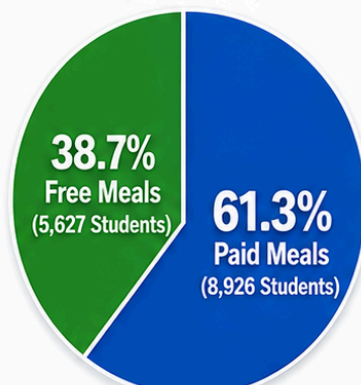
Free Meals vs. Paid Meals

CEP Schools
(48 Schools)



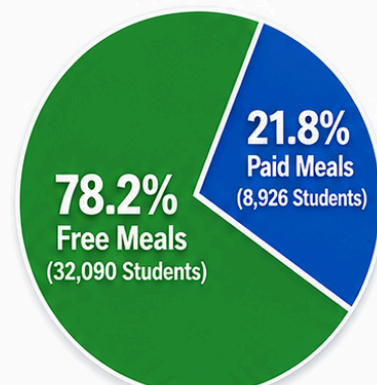
Free Meals (100%)
Paid Meals (0%)

Non-CEP Schools
(20 Schools)



Free Meals (38.7%)
Paid Meals (61.3%)

District Wide
(68 Schools)



Free Meals (78.2%)
Paid Meals (21.8%)



Across the district, **78.2%** of students receive free meals, while **21.8%** pay for school meals.

In FCPS, students who qualify for free meals or reduced-price meals **eat at no cost**. This means students from families who qualify for reduced-price meals eat for free—just like students from families who qualify for free meals.



FCPS MEAL ACCESS COMMITMENT

At Fayette County Public Schools, no student goes without a meal because of financial circumstances. **Every student has access to a prepared, nutritious meal each school day**, regardless of meal eligibility status, account balance, or ability to pay. Students who qualify for **free meals or reduced-price meals eat at no cost**. Students are **never denied a meal** due to insufficient funds or unpaid meal charges. Our commitment is to ensure that all students have the nourishment they need to **learn, grow, and succeed**.



Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.