

ATTACHMENT NO. X - F: Approval of 2025-2026 Lunch Fees

Suggested Motion: Move to Approve lunch pricing for the 2025/2026 school year

Recommended action: Approve as presented.

It is recommended that the lunch fees be approved for the 2025/2026 school year. The recommended fees are less than the SY25 targeted lunch price suggested by the USDA of \$3.85. (SY26 target price has not yet been released.)

Proposed Options for Lunch Pricing:

Option 1: \$3.50 for grades K-12

Option 2: Grades K-4 \$3.35 and Grades 5-12 \$3.50

Option 3: Grades K-4 \$3.50 and Grades 5-12 \$3.75

Pricing meals differently at grade levels is a way to help cover the cost of the meals at the higher grades. The serving sizes are larger at the higher levels, and a larger serving size equals a higher cost per meal.

Milk remaining priced at .50

Adult meals are priced at fifty cents higher than the highest lunch price.

## Lunch Price for FY26

Our target lunch price is: FY26 target price has not been released yet, FY25 target price was \$3.85

FY25 lunch price \$3.25

The minimum ISBE required increase is .10.

The District can choose to 1.) Increase the lunch price to \$3.35, this is the minimum we can increase, or 2.) Increase the price to get us closer to or at the USDA target price, or 3.) Take the exemption and stay at \$3.25.

If we choose to price less than the target price the district will be using fund balance to cover the difference. There is still a chance that based on the cost increases that the price that is decided on could result in a deficit. Revenues less expenses could still net a loss and fund balance need to cover that loss. We also need to consider our families when setting the price.

Proposed Options for lunch pricing:

Option 1: \$3.50 for grades K-12

Option 2: Grades K-4 \$3.35 and Grades 5-12 \$3.50

Option 3: Grades K-4 \$3.50 and Grades 5-12 \$3.75

Pricing meals differently at grades levels is a way to help cover the cost of the meals at the higher grades. As the serving sizes are larger at the higher levels. Larger serving size equals higher cost per meal.

Once a student price is decided we will also have to determine and approve the adult pricing. It will need to be a minimum of .50 more than the student pricing.

My recommendation would be option 2 or option 3 and adjust the adult price accordingly. This will lessen the impact to the families, by not reaching the full FY25 target price. In the future we will need to we will continuously increase to try to get as close to the target price as possible each year.

Milk should remain at .50.

Reimbursement rates will be reduced for FY26. The rates have not been released as of yet.

SY 24/25 target price was \$3.85

SY 23/24 target price was \$3.55

SY 22/23 target price was \$3.31 (\$3.30)

# Area District Lunch Fees

FY25 Prices

	District Wide Price	Grades K-5	Grades 6-12
North Boone	\$3.25		
RPS	CEP		
Harlem	CEP		
Harvard	CEP		
Belvidere	CEP		
South Beloit	CEP		
Hononegah	\$3.70		
Kinnikinnick	\$3.50		
Prairie Hill	\$3.85		
Rockton*	\$2.70		
Shirland	\$3.50		
Winnebago		\$2.85	\$3.25
Pecatonica	\$2.90		

\*Budgets in the red for Food Service. Uses fund balance to cover cost