

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
May 9, 2017

SUBJECT:

Increase in Meal Prices for 2017-18 School Year

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Section 205 of the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 states that 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 until they meet the requirement. The USDA created the paid lunch equity (PLE) tool to determine whether pricing requirements are being met and, if not met, the increase required to meet pricing requirements.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

Utilizing Aiken-specific information for the number of paid lunches and paid lunch prices and also considering prior year information, the tool indicates a .29 cent increase for 2017-2018 is needed. If the District chooses not to go up the total amount in a single year, the minimum increase required is .10 cent. In that case, the District should anticipate increases in subsequent years as we make up the remaining difference. Meal fees would increase as shown below.

	<u>2016-17</u> Price	<u>Proposed</u> 2017-18 Price
Elementary School Students:		
Lunch	\$ 2.30	\$ 2.45
Middle and High School Students:		
Lunch	\$ 2.45	\$ 2.60

- Breakfast prices would remain unchanged at \$1.75.
- The last meal increase was .15 cent for the 16-17 school year. The PLE tool indicated that a .34 cent increase was needed.
- The State establishes minimum prices for adult meals. Adult meals will increase by the greater of an amount comparable to the increase in student meals, or the new State minimum.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the increase in meal prices as indicated.

PREPARED BY:

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