

Zionsville Community Schools

Board of School Trustees Meeting "Item for Consideration"

New Business Item 9a • Date: April 14, 2025

Summer Meal Service

Category:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Human Resources, Personnel/Staffing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Board Policy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Finance, Budgeting, Accounting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Student Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Facilities, Transportation, Nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Relations	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Type of Board of Trustees Consideration Sought:

Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report	<input type="checkbox"/>

Facts of this Matter:

Prior to the summer of 2024, the Leadership Team conducted surveys and gathered information about the possibility of a Summer Meal Service program to provide a food option for students and families who are in and around our spaces for summer programming. In May 2024, the Board authorized the Food Services division to staff and offer food service at Zionsville West Middle School (for ZCamp participants) and Zionsville Community High School (for summer activity participants). Participation at ZCamp was very strong and feedback was positive from participating families. While utilization was lower at ZCHS, the Leadership Team would like to make changes based upon what was learned last summer and provide the opportunity again at both locations for summer 2025.

For payment, Z'Camp would utilize meal accounts for ZCS students and a temporary lunch account for non-students. Likewise, at ZCHS, customers could use their ZCS meal account with an additional cash option.

The majority of the ZCS Food Service Team typically works only the 180-school-day schedule with additional days as needed. Based upon the utilization experience from summer 2024, the Summer Meal Service program at two locations could require 2 positions at ZWMS and 1 position at ZCHS (3 total) working a possible combined total of 8-10 hours per serving day at each site. This amount is calculated based on the number of customers served and industry standards. Should actual demand dramatically exceed expectations, we would also request permission to add 1 position at each location (2 total), but only if cost neutrality were maintained. Because this work would require an extension of their current Board-approved work schedule, the Leadership Team seeks approval to extend the work schedule for the Food Service Team members supporting summer meal service needs.

Objective POSITIVES related to this item or approach:

The Summer Meal Service program would provide a convenient food option to students at both Z'Camp and ZCHS, as well as to their families. It offers an employment opportunity to several ZCS Food Service staff during the summer, with a positive impact on retention. Food service staff and student interaction will be enhanced in a less rushed and more informal approach to food service during the summer.

Objective NEGATIVES related to this item or approach:

No reimbursement from the government is available, so meals/menu items will cost more than during the school year. The anticipated cost for a meal at Z'West will be \$3.50 and items at ZCHS will be priced

a la carte. With the chance that staffing levels will exceed customer demand, there is a list of special activities the staff person(s) will do to benefit the department.

Opinion/Recommendation:

It is recommended that the ZCS Food Service Department provide summer meal service at Z'West and ZCHS during summer 2025 and permit appropriate staff members to exceed their current, board approved work schedule.

Financial Implications, if any:

If approved, all costs associated with this program will come from the School Lunch Fund.

Suggested Wording for a Motion, if any:

I move to authorize the Leadership Team to proceed with the planning and provision of the 2025 Summer Meal Service program at Z'Camp and ZCHS, including the extension of the work schedule for up to 5 Food Service positions as presented.