



Discussion Item

Date: May 4, 2026

Division: Student Services

Subject: Consider Approval of Meal Price Increases for the 2026-2027 School Year

Background Information:

- LISD participates in the National School Lunch and Breakfast programs provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).
- The USDA requires the use of the Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) tool to calculate minimum prices for full price student lunch meals. The intent of this tool is to ensure that the reimbursements from the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs do not subsidize the full price meal program. The PLE tool does not apply to student breakfast or adult meal prices.
- LISD is required by federal regulations to meet minimum adult meal prices based on formulas provided by the USDA.
- LISD last increased student and adult lunch meal prices for school year 2025-26 by \$0.30.
- LISD previously took advantage of an exemption to the PLE requirement to assist with spending in SYs 2023-2025, which reduced excessive 240 Child Nutrition Fund. The Child Nutrition Fund no longer carries a large excessive fund balance.

Administrative Consideration:

- Based on the 2025-2026 PLE tool guidelines, LISDs student lunch prices are \$0.93 below equity targets.
- Based on previous formulas, LISD adult meal prices meet the minimum allowed adult charge.
- Any increase in meal prices will not affect the reduced-price rates, which are typically \$0.30 for student breakfasts and \$0.40 for student lunches. Additionally, for the 2025–26 and 2026–27 school years, the General Appropriations Act passed by the 89th Texas Legislature provides funding so that students who qualify for reduced-price meals can receive both breakfast and lunch at no cost.
- The following meal prices are recommended by the administration:

Meal Type	Current Price	Recommended Price
Breakfast- All Students	\$1.65	\$1.75
Lunch- Elementary	\$3.15	\$3.25
Lunch- Secondary	\$3.40	\$3.50
Breakfast- Adult	\$3.00	\$3.10
Lunch- Adult	\$4.50	\$4.60