

Red Wing Public Schools
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School Board Workshop Agenda Item

Topic: Food Service Prices for 2022-2023
Contact(s):
Presenter(s): Jess Pena, Director of Nutrition Services

Nature of Action Requested by Board

Board action
Board information or scheduled report

Background Information

For 2019-20, breakfast was increased \$0.10 at all sites and the lunch at the middle school was increased \$0.10. For the 2022-23 school year, an additional \$0.10 minimum increase is recommended by the state/federal government to further increase our weighted average to the recommended \$2.92 (*based off the Paid Lunch Equity Tool from 2019/20*). *With the meals being free for all the paid lunch data was derived from the 19/20 SY.*

Red Wing Public Schools continues to see an increase in the number of breakfasts served to students (*Pre pandemic participation rate was at an average of 25% now the participation rate has significantly increased up to 46%*). The food service department is experiencing the need for higher wages and with inflation we are projected to see a vast increase in products all across the food service board.

The department continuously works to re-develop the menu, selection/offerings at all levels, and adjusting a la carte prices to further assist in decreasing food cost, labor and increase revenue. A continuous challenge is finding a la carte selection and pricing that is appealing to the students and still generates revenue for the district. The FREE Kindergarten Breakfast program; which, is paid for by the state, will continue into the 2022/23 school year. We will be utilizing breakfast in the classroom as this has been a huge success that happened only out of necessity during the pandemic. A silver lining for breakfast consumption. As you know students cannot learn on an empty stomach.

Food Service is recommending the adjustment of \$0.10 for student lunch prices for all sites, for full paid students. The Board has approved increasing a la carte prices as needed to meet cost adjustments, and we assume this practice will be continued. We recommend the Board approve these changes.

Recommendation

I move to approve the breakfast and lunch prices for 2022-23 as proposed.