



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: Dr. Ushma Shah, Superintendent
Board of Education

FROM: Patrick King, Senior Director of Finance

SUBJECT: Food Service and Registration Fees Recommendations

DATE: February 21, 2023

On an annual basis, the administration reviews and determines whether lunch and/or registration fees should be increased. The fees are based upon many factors including, year of last increase, any District registration expense increase, cost of food, any ISBE mandates regarding food prices, and comparable fees at surrounding school districts.

The 2022-2023 (current) registration fee schedule is as follows:

- Early Childhood Program -The \$29.00 Student Fee covers Instructional Materials.
- Grades K-5 - The \$180 Student Fee includes: \$77.00 for Instructional Materials; \$83.00 for Before/After School & Lunch Supervision; and \$20.00 for Technology.
- Middle School - The \$225 Student Fee includes: \$20.00 Activity Fee; \$78.00 for Instructional Materials; \$107.00 for Before/After School & Lunch Supervision; and \$20.00 for Technology.

Registration Fee Recommendation

The recommended 2023-2024 registration fee schedule is as follows:

- Early Childhood Program -The \$29.00 Student Fee covers Instructional Materials.
- Grades K-5 - The \$180 Student Fee includes: \$77.00 for Instructional Materials; \$83.00 for Before/After School & Lunch Supervision; and \$20.00 for Technology.
- Middle School - The \$225 Student Fee includes: \$20.00 Activity Fee; \$78.00 for Instructional Materials; \$107.00 for Before/After School & Lunch Supervision; and \$20.00 for Technology.

It is recommended that the 2023-2024 registration fees remain unchanged.

The USDA determines a targeted paid lunch price each school year as part of the National School Lunch program requirements. A school district is required to perform a paid lunch equity calculation if their paid lunch prices are below the threshold set by the USDA for the applicable school year (\$3.31 for 2022-2023). The calculation essentially determines a weighted average of meal prices and has various requirements for increasing food prices, which includes a 2% rate increase plus the Consumer Price Index (4.04%) for 2022-2023. However, there is a cap of \$0.10 per meal on how much ISBE can require a district to increase prices per the federal guidelines.

The historical food service fee schedule has been as follows:

- Elementary - The food program pricing is as follows: Breakfast \$1.75; Lunch \$2.80; and Milk \$.45 per carton. One carton of milk is included with each breakfast and lunch.
- Middle School -The food program pricing is as follows: Breakfast \$1.75; Lunch \$3.00; and Milk \$.45 per carton. One carton of milk is included with each breakfast and lunch.
- Adult- \$3.25

Food Service Price Recommendation

The recommended 2023-2024 food service prices are as follows:

- Elementary - The food program pricing is as follows: Breakfast \$1.75; Lunch \$2.90; and Milk \$.45 per carton. One carton of milk is included with each breakfast and lunch.
- Middle School -The food program pricing is as follows: Breakfast \$1.75; Lunch \$3.10; and Milk \$.45 per carton. One carton of milk is included with each breakfast and lunch.
- Adult- \$3.25

Administration is recommending a \$.10 per meal increase for lunch for the 2023-2024 school year for the following reasons:

- The National School Lunch Program paid lunch equity requirements noted above require D97 to raise prices \$.10 at a minimum based on the results of the calculation.
- D97's food service provider (OPRF High School) raised meal prices \$.02 for school year 2023 and have proposed an increase of \$.05 for school year 2024.
- D97 participated in a food price survey of nearly 60 other school districts in Illinois. The average elementary price was \$3.16 and average middle school price was \$3.25. D97 is still below these averages even with the price increase.
- It has been several years since D97 raised food prices and these incremental increases will be necessary to keep up with rising inflation.