

**Recommendation for School Lunch Prices Increase – \$0.10
For the 2025–2026 School Year**

Submitted by:

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Background:

In accordance with the National School Lunch Program: School Food Service Account Revenue Amendments related to the *Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010*, school meal prices must align with the federal reimbursement rate's weighted average price \$3.85

Upon consultation with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), it has been confirmed that our district does not receive any non-federal contributions into the lunch program. Funds received through incentive programs are not deposited into a separate school account.

ISBE Guidance:

- **\$0.10 Cap:** ISBE can only require a \$0.10 increase in lunch prices to maintain compliance.
- **School Food Authority (SFA) Discretion:** While ISBE mandates a \$0.10 minimum increase, the SFA has the authority to raise prices beyond this amount with administrative approval.
- For the 2025–2026 school year, ISBE recommended a \$0.10 increase.
- The recommendation remains consistent for the 2025–2026 school year.

Proposed Meal Price Adjustments:

School	Lunch Current	Lunch Proposed	Breakfast Current	Breakfast Proposed
Highland	\$2.95	\$3.05	\$1.70	\$1.80
Monroe Center	\$2.95	\$3.05	\$1.70	\$1.80
Jr. High School	\$3.05	\$3.15	\$1.70	\$1.80
High School	\$3.05	\$3.15	\$1.70	\$1.80

ISBE Recommended Price Increase Timeline:

School Year	Recommended Increase
2025–2026	\$0.10
2026–2027	\$0.10
2027–2028	\$0.10

This timeline ensures alignment with ISBE's price adjustment expectations and helps maintain compliance with federal guidelines.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve an increase of **\$0.10** in **both lunch and breakfast prices** beginning in the **2025–2026 school year**, with continued increases of \$0.10 in each subsequent year through **2027–2028**, in accordance with ISBE guidance and the federal mandate.