

ORANGE COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: April 8, 2013

AGENDA ITEM No. 13-04-15

ACTION ITEM: (Y/N) Y

SUBJECT: Child Nutrition Lunch Meal Prices

INFO. CONTACT: Pam Jones/Valerie Green PHONE: 919-732-8126

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment 1- Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 - Section 205 and Summary  
Attachment 2- Lunch Meals and Free and Reduced Percentages Data  
Attachment 3- 2012-2013 Summary of Meal Prices

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**PURPOSE:** To present information to the Board of Education regarding the lunch meal price adjustments in Orange County Schools according to S. 3307 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010-Section 205.

**BACKGROUND:** Effective July 1, 2011, Section 205 of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 requires school food authorities participating in the National School Lunch Program to ensure sufficient funds are being provided to the nonprofit school food service account for meals served to paying students who are not eligible for free and reduced price meals.

The USDA reimbursement rates for the 2012-2013 school year are as follows:

\$2.86 for each meal served to students that qualify for free meals  
\$2.46 for each meal served to students that qualify for reduced meals  
\$0.27 for each meal served to students that qualify for paid meals.

Therefore, the Section 205 Act requires school food authorities whose average paid lunch prices are less than the difference of the free meal and paid meal USDA reimbursement rates, which equal \$2.59, to raise their prices. Orange County Schools currently charges \$1.90 (elementary) and \$2.40 (middle/high) with a weighted average of \$2.17. The school district must either gradually adjust average prices or provide non-Federal funding to cover the difference. The price adjustment must be increased by two percent plus an inflation rate of 2.93(4.93 percent total), as specified in the Act. The inflation rate is adjusted annually.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The Orange County Schools Child Nutrition Services would adhere to the Equity in School Lunch Meals Pricing Provision as mandated by the Act. Therefore, an increase across the board of \$.10 is recommended for paid student lunch meals.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the following across the board meal prices for the 2013-2014 school year to be effective July 1, 2013:  
Lunch: Elementary- \$2.00; Middle/High- \$2.50; and Adults- A la carte.

## CHILD NUTRITION REAUTHORIZATION HEALTHY, HUNGER-FREE KIDS ACT OF 2010

**SEC. 205. EQUITY IN SCHOOL LUNCH PRICING.**

Section 12 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1760) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**(p) PRICE FOR A PAID LUNCH.—**

(1) **DEFINITION OF PAID LUNCH.**—In this subsection, the term ‘paid lunch’ means a reimbursable lunch served to students who are not certified to receive free or reduced price meals.

**(2) REQUIREMENT.—**

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—For each school year beginning July 1, 2011, each school food authority shall establish a price for paid lunches in accordance with this subsection.

**(B) LOWER PRICE.—**

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of a school food authority that established a price for a paid lunch in the previous school year that was less than the difference between the total Federal reimbursement for a free lunch and the total Federal reimbursement for a paid lunch, the school food authority shall establish an average price for a paid lunch that is not less than the price charged in the previous school year, as adjusted by a percentage equal to the sum obtained by adding—

(I) 2 percent; and

(II) the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (food away from home index) used to increase the Federal reimbursement rate under section 11 for the most recent school year for which data are available, as published in the Federal Register.

(ii) **ROUNDING.**—A school food authority may round the adjusted price for a paid lunch under clause (i) down to the nearest 5 cents.

**(iii) MAXIMUM REQUIRED PRICE INCREASE.—**

(I) **IN GENERAL.**—The maximum annual average price increase required to meet the requirements of this subparagraph shall not exceed 10 cents for any school food authority.

(II) **DISCRETIONARY INCREASE.**—A school food authority may increase the average price for a paid lunch for a school year by more than 10 cents.

**‘(C) EQUAL OR GREATER PRICE.—**

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of a school food authority that established an average price for a paid lunch in the previous school year that was equal to or greater than the difference between the total Federal reimbursement for a free lunch and the total Federal reimbursement for a paid lunch, the school food authority shall establish an average price for a paid lunch that is not less than the difference between the total Federal reimbursement for a free lunch and the total Federal reimbursement for a paid lunch.

“(ii) **ROUNDING.**—A school food authority may round the adjusted price for a paid lunch under clause (i) down to the nearest 5 cents.

**(3) EXCEPTIONS.—**

(A) **REDUCTION IN PRICE.**—A school food authority may reduce the average price of a paid lunch established under this subsection if the State agency ensures that funding from non-Federal sources (other than in-kind contributions) is added to the nonprofit school food service account of the school food authority in an amount estimated to be equal to at least the difference between—

(i) the average price required of the school food authority for the paid lunches under paragraph (2); and

(ii) the average price charged by the school food authority for the paid lunches.

(B) **NON-FEDERAL SOURCES.**—For the purposes of subparagraph (A), non-Federal sources does not include revenue from the sale of foods sold in competition with meals served under the school lunch program authorized under this Act or the school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C.1773).

(C) **OTHER PROGRAMS.**—This subsection shall not apply to lunches provided under section 17 of this Act.

(4) **REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary shall establish procedures to carry out this subsection, including collecting and publishing the prices that school food authorities charge for paid meals on an annual basis and procedures that allow school food authorities to average the pricing of paid lunches at schools throughout the jurisdiction of the school food authority.”

# CHILD NUTRITION REAUTHORIZATION HEALTHY, HUNGER-FREE KIDS ACT OF 2010

## Summary

### Section 205 -

Establishes requirements regarding the nonfederal contribution required of school food authorities receiving federal reimbursement through the school lunch program. Requires food authorities that have an average paid lunch price that is less than the difference between the free lunch reimbursement rate and the paid lunch reimbursement rate to set their average paid lunch price eventually so that the total per meal revenue received for those lunches is equal to the per meal revenue provided by the federal government for free lunches. Sets forth the formula for setting the average price for paid meals. Requires school food authorities that have an average paid lunch price equal to or greater than the difference between the free lunch reimbursement rate and the paid lunch reimbursement rate to adjust their prices annually by the inflation adjustment factor used for federal reimbursement rates. Allows a school food authority to reduce the average paid lunch price if the state ensures that nonfederal funding is added to the nonprofit school food service account of the food authority to satisfy the requirements of this section.

Orange County Schools  
 Child Nutrition Services

Lunch Meals and Free and Reduced Percentages Data  
 April 8, 2013

School Year	Free Lunch Meals	Reduced Lunch Meals	Paid Lunch Meals	Total	Free and Reduced Percentages
2010-2011	341,875	38,671	221,358	601,904	38.68%
2011-2012	357,778	37,614	186,985	582,377	40.08%
2012-2013 (July 1, 2012- February 28, 2013)	227,266	24,436	116,313	368,015	40.53%

**Orange County Schools  
Child Nutrition Services  
Summary of Meal Prices  
2012-2013**

School System	Schools	Breakfast			Lunch		
		Elementary	Middle/High	Adult	Elementary	Middle/High	Adult
Alamance-Burlington Schools	35	\$1.25	\$1.50	A la Carte	\$2.20	\$2.20	\$3.00
Caswell County Schools	6	\$1.25	\$1.25	A la Carte	\$1.90	\$2.15	A la Carte
Durham Public Schools	53	\$1.60	\$1.60	\$1.85	\$2.35	\$2.50	\$3.50
Person County Schools	11	\$1.00	\$1.00	A la Carte	\$1.85	\$2.10	A la Carte
Wake County Schools	167	\$1.00	\$1.25	A la Carte	\$2.00	\$2.25	A la Carte
Chapel-Hill/Carrboro Schools *	18	\$1.30	\$1.20	\$1.65	\$2.75	\$3.00	\$3.60
(Management Company)							
Orange County Schools	13	\$1.30	\$1.30	A la Carte	\$1.90	\$2.40	A la Carte
<b>Proposed Meal Prices for 2013-2014</b>		<b>\$1.30</b>	<b>\$1.30</b>	<b>A la Carte</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>	<b>\$2.50</b>	<b>A la Carte</b>