



May 2, 2017

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

RECOMMENDATION: That the School Committee approve an increase to student lunch prices as follows:

Cambridge Public Schools – Student Lunch Prices

	Current	Proposed
Elementary Lunch	\$2.75	\$3.00
High School Lunch	\$3.00	\$3.50
Ala Carte Milk	\$0.50	\$0.50
Adult Lunch-Elementary	\$3.75	\$4.00
Adult Lunch-High School	\$4.00	\$4.50

DESCRIPTION: Federal law requires school districts charging \$2.86 or less for paid lunches are required to adjust their average paid lunch price to remain in compliance. The weighted average is calculated by taking total sales (at the varying price brackets) and dividing by total meals served. Cambridge’s weighted average is \$2.80. Increasing the prices as suggested will ensure we remain in compliance.

	Price	Meals	Sales
CRLS	\$ 3.00	96,319	\$ 288,957.00
Elementary Schools	\$ 2.75	417,042	\$ 1,146,865.50
Total		513,361	\$ 1,435,822.50
<i>Weighted Average Price</i>	<i>\$ 2.80</i>		

SUPPORTING DATA: See attached supplemental information.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth N. Salim, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: School Lunch Prices

- In the current school year (2016-17), 42.9% of Cambridge Public Schools students qualify for the Free and Reduced Meals rate. Students who receive school meals at no cost or at a reduced rate will not be impacted by the proposed price increases.
- The last meal price increase was September 2013.
- The portion sizes at the high school are significantly larger than the K-8 portions justifying the greater price increase.
- Approval of the recommended price increases is projected to increase food service receivables by approximately **\$40,000** in FY18.

Meal Pricing for Other Massachusetts Districts

The following is a chart detailing the lunch prices *currently* assigned at the specified surrounding school districts.

District	Lower School Lunch Price	High School Lunch Price	Milk Price
Arlington	3.00	3.00	.60
Brookline	3.25	3.50	.50
Malden	2.45	2.78	.50
Medford	2.70	3.00	.50
Newton	3.30	3.85	.75
Quincy	2.25	2.50	.50
Somerville	2.75	3.00	.50
Watertown	3.00	3.50	.55