



PRESS RELEASE

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SMALL INCREASE TO SCHOOL MEAL PRICES FOR 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

On April 19, 2018, the Poway School Board unanimously approved a twenty-five cent (\$0.25) increase in meal prices beginning July 1, 2018, as stated below:

REGULAR MEALS	Lunch	Breakfast*
Elementary (Pre-K to 5)	\$3.25	\$2.25
Middle and High Schools	\$3.75	\$2.50
Reduced Price Students (no change)	\$0.40	\$0.30
Non Students/Adults	\$4.25	\$3.00

* Breakfast is served at eight (8) school sites.

The Board also approved the following special meal prices for special occasions:

SPECIAL MEALS	Lunch
Special Lunch – Elementary (Pre-K to 5)	\$3.50
Special Lunch – Middle/High Schools	\$4.00
Reduced Price Students (no change)	\$0.40
Special Lunch - Non Students/Adults	\$4.50

This increase will not affect students who receive free and reduced-price meals.

The school meals program does not receive educational tax dollars or financial support from the general school district budget. The program operates exclusively on revenues received from selling school meals, a la carte sales, and federal and state reimbursements for paid, free and reduced price meals.

Major factors contributing to this price increase are federal regulations and higher costs for food, labor, fuel, supplies, and overhead necessary to prepare healthy meals. Federal regulations require participants in the National School Lunch Program to raise lunch prices for paying students to match the federal reimbursement rate for free lunches. Schools are also required to serve more fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, plus zero trans fat, and lower amounts of sodium and saturated fats.

Meal prices are increased only when necessary to comply with federal mandates and help the program break even. Even with the higher prices, busy families are still getting a great value and convenience. PUSD's Food and Nutrition staff maintains high standards that go well beyond federal nutrition requirements by ensuring that all meals are freshly made, safe, healthy, and provide all the nutrition students need to succeed at school.

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