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## CALALLEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA ITEM

**MEETING DATE:** July 13, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Consider approval of District meal prices for school year 2026-2027

**PRESENTER:** Kelsey Ramos, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations

- |  |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation/Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Consent      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Informational Report        | <input type="checkbox"/> Old Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only   |

**SUMMARY:** Each year, District’s must evaluate their lunch pricing structure and determine if the cost and income from lunch meals are equitably distributed among free, reduced-price, and paid meals—Paid Lunch Equity (PLE). CEs that determine that the lunch pricing structure is not equitably distributed must take action to remedy the inequity—increase meal prices, provide additional funds from nonfederal sources, or a combination of both. For 2026-2027, the District’s evaluation indicates raising school lunch prices \$3.85 to be complaint with the “Weighted Average Price” calculation.

However, District’s with a positive or zero balance in their nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2025, are exempt from PLE pricing requirements for SY 2026-2027 per the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2026. This exemption is reflected in USDA policy memo SP 06-2026, Paid Lunch Equity: Guidance for School Year 2026-2027, released April 14, 2026.

As such, a District with a zero or positive fund balance as of June 30, 2025, has two options:

1. Complete and apply the SY 2026-2027 PLE calculation to the meal pricing structure. If a District chooses this option, the District will adjust meal prices as appropriate to the PLE calculation. The CE must retain the completed PLE calculation tool and other documentation demonstrating how the CE determined the meal prices to be charged; or
2. **Choose not to complete and not to apply the SY 2026-2027 PLE calculation.** If the District chooses this option, the District may increase meal prices, but is not required to do so. The District must retain financial documentation that demonstrates the District has reconciled all costs incurred and income received through June 30, 2025, and determined that it has a zero or positive fund balance. If the District chooses to increase meal prices, the District needs to retain documentation demonstrating the amount of the price increase.

**DISTRICT PRIORITIES:**

PRIORITY 1: Building and Sustaining a Culture of Performance and Preparedness for Life Beyond High School	N/A
PRIORITY 2: Building and Sustaining a Culture of Faculty and Staff Commitment	N/A
PRIORITY 3: Increasing Community Engagement and Commitment	N/A
PRIORITY 4: Ensuring Effective and Efficient Operations	4.1 Strong Financial Stewardship

**RECOMMENDATION:** Administration recommends the Board approve the paid meal prices for 2026-2027 at no increase under Option #2 of the USDA policy memo SP 06-2026, Paid Lunch Equity: Guidance for School Year 2026-2027, released April 14, 2026.

**Breakfast – All Campuses:                      FREE**  
**Lunch – Elementary/Secondary:            \$3.60/\$3.85**

**MOTION LANGUAGE:**     No specific language required.

**FUNDING SOURCE AND FINANCIAL IMPACT:**     Not Applicable