

DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS #170

"A Place to Grow"

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Margo Empen, Superintendent
Doug Stansford, Asst. Superintendent
Marc Campbell, Business Manager

Date: April 15, 2026
To: Board of Education Members
From: Margo Empen, Superintendent & Marc Campbell, Chief School Business Official
RE: FY 26 Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Analysis Results

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is an option under Section 104(a) of the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 which ultimately provides an option for a school district to provide free breakfast and lunch to every student. The reimbursement rates as a CEP District are different than our traditional claiming method as a National School Lunch Program (NSLP) District. Additionally, these rates are different based on the percentage of the districts "Identified Students." Below is an abbreviated summary of rates.

CEP Identified Student %	Free Claiming % , (* 1.6 USDA Factor)	Paid claiming %	Aver. Lunch Reimbursement	Average Breakfast Reimbursement
62.5%	100.0%	0.0%	\$4.75	\$2.98
52.0%	83.2%	16.8%	\$4.04	\$2.55
45.0%	72.0%	28.0%	\$3.57	\$2.26
35.0%	56.0%	44.0%	\$2.90	\$1.84
25%	40.0%	60.0%	\$2.23	\$1.43

Our reimbursement rates for NSLP are;

- Breakfast: Reduced Rate = \$2.64 and Free Rate = \$2.94
- Lunch: Reduced Rate = \$4.31 and Free Rate = \$4.71

The process of determining the cost or valuation of the CEP program

- 1) Find the number of students as of April 1, 2026 who represent the "Identified Students" for the evaluation. (Note: This is not your Free and Reduced Population.)
- 2) Make preliminary calculations. ISBE provides a spreadsheet to enter enrollments, identified students, and meal counts which will make a comparison calculation based on reimbursement rates. (Note: The spreadsheet takes into consideration an increase in meals factor.) See page #2
- 3) If preliminary calculations and desire of the District is to move forward, then the application process begins.

Analysis Results: See the spreadsheet

- Traditional claiming reimbursement = \$847,000
- CEP claiming reimbursement = \$726,000
- Implementation of the CEP program would cost the District approximately \$120,000/year.

As a result of the CEP analysis, District Administration cannot recommend the implementation of CEP at this time. This analysis has been and will continue to be a yearly evaluation.

Dixon Public Schools, in cooperation with the community, will provide students with a comprehensive educational program that produces well-educated, self-sufficient, and involved citizens.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Worksheet

Directions: Record appropriate numbers in the yellow boxes to calculate Traditional versus CEP claiming.

Site Name: _____ Site #: _____

Month Used: _____ School Year: _____

Traditional Method						
Breakfasts		Total Meals Claimed			Total Meals Claimed	
	Free	44,459		Free	95,551	
	Reduced-Price	5,623		Reduced-Price	12,471	
	Paid	13,352		Paid	44,757	
	Total Breakfasts Claimed		63,434		Total Lunches Claimed	
		Student Prices			Student Prices	
	Reduced-Price	\$0.30		Reduced-Price	\$0.40	
	Paid	\$1.30		Paid	\$3.10	
	Total Breakfast Revenue		\$171,717.84		Total Lunch Revenue	
				Total Revenue Based on Traditional Claiming: \$847,686.55		

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Method					
1	Enrollment	2,248	5	Total Breakfasts Claimed	63,434
	Identified Students	1,076		Total Lunches Claimed	152,779
2	% of Identified Students	47.86%	6	Total Breakfast Revenue	\$ 150,710.15
3	% of Meals Reimbursed at Free Rate	76.58%	7	Total Lunch Revenue	\$ 575,444.01
4	% of Meals Reimbursed at the Paid Rate	23.42%	8		
Total Revenue Based on CEP Claiming: \$726,154.16					

Traditional Claiming = \$847,686.55	vs.	CEP Claiming = \$726,154.16
Traditional Claiming Provides Greater Reimbursement		

CEP - Average Reimbursement Rate per BREAKFAST		(based on above data)
\$ 2.38		\$ 3.77

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