

July 1, 2016

Dear Families,

DC Public Schools always looks for ways to improve our students' experience inside and outside of the classroom. We know that the food your child receives at school plays a very important role in preparing their minds and bodies for learning. To that end, we are focused on ensuring that they receive fresh, tasty, well balanced, child-friendly meals and excellent service.

In order to provide the highest quality meals that are fun and appealing to our students, we will be increasing the price of lunch next school year for students paying full-price for lunch. DC Public Schools must do this in order to keep up with the pricing of our food vendors and at the same time meet all federal and local rules for the school meal program.

For the 2016-2017 school year which starts in August, the cost of paid lunch meals will be \$2.60 for elementary (PK-Grade 5), and \$3.10 for secondary (Grade 6-Grade 12) students. Free and reduced lunches are available to students who submit a Free and Reduced Meal (FARM) application and meet the Federal Income Eligibility requirements. Breakfast and all afterschool enrichment program meals, such as supper and snack, will continue to be free for all students.

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve your child healthy meals, and we are confident you will be pleased with our student meal services. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Kristen Rowe, Manager of Nutrition & Compliance for Food & Nutrition Services at Kristen.Rowe@dc.gov or 202.442.5177.

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Nathanie Beers, MD, MPA, FAAP

**Chief Operating Officer**