



**PUTNAM COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #535**

Recommendation for the Board of Education

**Meeting:** May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Item:** Approval of Meal and Milk Prices for 2026-2027

**Recommendation:** I recommend the Board of Education approve the proposed fee increases for meals and milk as outlined below

Under Section 752, of Division A of the Appropriations Act, School Food Authorities participating in the National School Lunch Program must make price adjustments if it had a negative balance at the end of a fiscal year. Based on annual financial reports, the District has had a negative balance for a few years and is projected to have a negative balance for FY26. This shortfall is covered using local funds; the District does not carry balances forward into the next fiscal year.

Based on our calculations, fees would have to increase by \$1.26 to offset the funds in future years. However, rather than a one-time significant increase, we recommend a phased approach to reach a zero-sum balance over the next few years.

**PCPS & PCES**

Item	FY25 Fee	FY26 Fee	FY27 Fee
Breakfast	\$1.60	\$1.70	\$1.85
Lunch	\$2.50	\$2.70	\$2.90
Extra Milk	\$0.45	\$0.45	\$0.45

**PCJH & PCHS**

Item	FY25 Fee	FY26 Fee	FY27 Fee
Breakfast	\$1.75	\$1.85	\$2.00
Lunch	\$2.70	\$2.90	\$3.10
Extra Milk	\$0.45	\$0.45	\$0.45

**Employee\***

Item	FY25 Fee	FY26 Fee	FY27 Fee
Breakfast	\$2.25	\$3.20	\$3.20
Lunch	\$3.00	\$3.40	\$3.60
Extra Milk	\$0.45	\$0.45	\$0.45

\*The employee meal cost must be at least \$0.50 higher than the highest student rate.