

Falls City School Meal Prices to Increase

You may have noticed an increase in the cost of food at the supermarket. The increase in food costs is also affecting the cost of school meals in Falls City.

The Falls City Board of Education Monday night approved a 10-cent increase in the cost of school breakfast and lunch prices for the next school year.

With the increase, the cost of school lunches will be \$2 at the Parent-Child Center, \$2.55 for kindergarten through 5th grade students, \$2.70 for middle school students, \$2.75 for high school students, and \$3.15 for adults.

Breakfast prices will be \$1.60 for grades K-through-5, \$1.70 for grades six through 12, and \$1.85 for adults.

In a letter to the board explaining the reason for the increase, district Nutrition Services Supervisor Carol Zimmerman said that food expenses increased 23-percent this year, while milk expenses went up 16-percent.

Zimmerman also noted that a new federal law, the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 requires school meals to include more fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, while also reducing the amount of sodium, calories and fat in school meals.

The increase will not affect free and reduced price meals. Superintendent Tim Heckenlively estimated that the price increase would result in an additional \$14,000 in funding for the school lunch program.

Also taking a price jump in the next school year will be Falls City activity passes. Based on a recommendation from High School Principal Gale Dunkhas and Athletic Director Darwin Palmer, the board approved an increase in activity passes. Student and individual adult activity passes will both be increased by five dollars, to \$30 and \$50 respectively. A family pass will go from \$125 to \$140. Admission prices for individual events will remain the same. Dunkhas noted that the activity pass would still be a good deal for those who attend events regularly throughout the year.

In other action Monday night, the Falls City School Board adopted a core services resolution and special education contract with ESU 4 for the next school year.

And the board accepted the resignation of Jessica Miller, who has been a second grade teacher at North School the past two years.