



NEWS RELEASE: 20 - 17

May 2, 2017

School Lunch Prices to Increase Overseas

The price for school lunches at all Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools outside the continental United States (OCONUS) will increase \$0.25 for the 2017 – 2018 school year. The price increase is due to the rising operational costs and to comply with federal law.

“As the designated School Food Authority, the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) provides school meals on a nonprofit, break-even basis, for the DoD Student Meal Program,” said NEXCOM’s Command Master Chief Shannon Howe. “To ensure we can continue to provide meals that contain whole grains, lean proteins, fresh fruits and vegetables, and low-fat milk, the cost of school lunches needs to increase slightly in order to keep up with the increasing operational costs of running the program.”

The lunch price will increase \$0.25 each for elementary and secondary students’ meals, making the new prices \$2.75 and \$3.00 respectively. Families qualifying for the Free and Reduced Meal Program will not see a cost increase. Per federal guidelines, the cost of a reduced-price meal will remain \$.40 per meal.

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (Public Law 111-296) requires DoDEA schools, as participants in the USDA meal program, to raise paid student lunch prices to a level comparable to the rates used for USDA reimbursement. To meet this requirement, prices in OCONUS schools will be gradually increased over the coming years.

The DoD Student Meal Program meets the same USDA guidelines as schools in the continental United States by providing meals that have the required nutrients for children. For more information on the DoD School Meal Program visit www.mynavyexchange.com/smp.

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About NEXCOM

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) oversees 100 Navy Exchange (NEX) facilities and nearly 300 stores worldwide, 39 Navy Lodges, the Ships Store Program, the Uniform Program Management Office, the Navy Clothing and Textile Research Facility and the Telecommunications Program Office. NEXCOM's parent command is the Naval Supply Systems Command. NEXCOM’s mission is to provide authorized customers quality goods and services at a savings and to support Navy quality of life programs for active duty military, retirees, reservists and their families. NEXs and Navy Lodges operate primarily as a non-appropriated fund (NAF) business instrumentality. NEX revenues

generated are used to support Navy Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) programs. Since 1946, NEXCOM has given \$2.5 billion to Navy MWR quality of life programs. Shop online at myNavyExchange.com.