Officials raised lunch prices due to money lost last year

“In a six month period, the school system lost $50,000 which affects all departments,” said Food Services Director Sandy Lemon. “The school board wants our department to be self-sufficient. We are expected to run as a business, like McDonald’s or Burger King. When the businesses lose money, they have to lower their prices.”

The prices were raised because of the $2500 of last year district-wide in the food department. According to Food Services Director Sandy Lemon, when the cafeteria loses money, the School Board is forced make up the difference.

“The prices are outrageous,” junior Bryce Bellinger said. “They price gouge. Other businesses have to lower their prices to compete with each other. Our cafeteria is guaranteed customers, so they should be able to lower the prices.”

Students also feel that the raised prices have limited the number of students who buy lunch. In fact, they can only eat chips every day, that’s what the businesses lose money, they have to raise their prices.”

Many students feel that the prices should be lower because the school can rely on its customers, unlike businesses such as McDonald’s.

“I think the closed campus lets the school monopolize us,” junior Chris Cuyar said. “They price gouge. Other businesses have to lower their prices to compete with each other. Our cafeteria is guaranteed customers, so they should be able to lower the prices.”

Students agreed with what Perkins has done so far, judging by their comments and actions.

“He’s going out of his way to schedule fund raisers and field trips to other bands to see what they do that we can work on,” freshman Chris Marth said.

The changes that Perkins instituted have worked very well as evidenced by first place awards in the categories of marching, music and general effects at the MSBOA marching competition.

“I’m ridiculously proud of the work we’ve done so far, because we couldn’t do it two months ago,” Perkins said. “These kids wanted to be good, and hopefully I’ve given the right tools to help them succeed.”

Students are noticing the change in pace, and many appreciate it. They believe that Perkins has brought great success.

“I think the band program has improved greatly. Mr. Perkins is much more organized and manages the time we have a lot better,” sophomore Emily Leonard said. “He’s making a smart move by having zero hour practices because more people come to them. We can work on the show and make a lot better.”

Organizing the band program is not the only change Perkins has instituted. He began a dream for the students in band to share.

Together, between the students, administration, parents and myself, we can share a vision, building a program that provides the highest possible quality of music education while being a great deal of fun for kids,” Perkins said.

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