Patrick E. Colucci, Sr., Superintendent Kassandra Brand, Treasurer

3436 Edgewood Drive • Ashtabula, OH 44004 Phone: 440.998.4411 • Fax: 440.992.8369

Exhibit J

Lisa Loomis • Food Service Supervisor 440-990-3162 • I.loomis@buckeyeschools.info Central Office • 3436 Edgewood Drive • Ashtabula, OH 44004

Mr. Colucci, Lunch Price Increase

## Paid Lunch Equity Guidelines:

Guidance for Paid Lunch Pricing for SY 2024-2025 Under Section 748, of Division B of the Appropriations Act, for SY 2024-2025, only SFAs that had a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2023, shall be required to establish a price for paid lunches according to the PLE provisions in Section 12(p) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) (42 U.S.C. 1760(p)) and implemented in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) regulations at 7 CFR 210.14(e). Consistent with the terms of the Appropriations Act, this memorandum provides notice that any SFA with a positive or zero balance in its nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2023, is exempt from paid lunch equity pricing requirements found at 7 CFR 210.14(e) for SY 2024-2025.

While we do currently have a positive balance and can be exempt from raising prices what if our balance declines in the next few years? The district would then have to make a huge change in our lunch prices at one time and our families may struggle even more than they currently are to afford those prices. ODE and USDA suggest smaller price increases to stay within the guide lines each year therefore: following this advice I am requesting a small price increase in lunch prices for the 2024-25 school year.

Edgewood High School \$2.90 to \$3.00 for the 2024-25 school year. (.10 cent increase) Wallace Braden Middle School \$2.90 to \$3.00 (.10 cent increase) Kingsville Elementary \$2.75 to \$2.90 (.15 cent increase) Ridgeview Elementary \$2.75 to \$2.90 (.15 cent increase)

This results in a .25 cent increase district wide and keeps us in compliance of the Paid Lunch Equity.

Sincerely, Lisa Loomis

Food Service Supervisor Buckeye Local Schools

Board Members: Shannon Pike (P) • Stephanie Patriarco(VP) • Gregory Kocjancic • Roman Vencill • Chad Miller