



RYAN WALTERS
STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please sign our petition here: [School Meal Reform](#)

Asking school districts to operate within their budget has set off controversy all across the state. School districts across Oklahoma have already adopted full student lunch coverage. The difference? Some districts are prioritizing your kids, while others are choosing to protect bloated bureaucracies instead.

Here are the facts:

- Parents already pay for student meals through federal and local taxes. You are then taxed a third time in the form of an invoice from the school cafeteria.
- The idea that schools "don't have the funds" is untrue when districts like:
 - Bixby reported a **\$43.3 million surplus**
 - Deer Creek reported a **\$48.7 million surplus**
 - Piedmont reported a **\$17.9 million surplus**
 - Broken Arrow reported a **\$109.8 million surplus**

The direction should be simple to school districts - use the money that you have and stop triple taxing parents. Operate within your budget.

Teachers will not be fired and favorite programs will continue: **schools have more money in the budget than ever before**, so budget appropriately and stop the fear tactics.

In Oklahoma, we put kids first — not bureaucrats.

For Oklahoma,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Walters".