

Minidoka School District #331

Nutrition Department Monthly Report

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Fueling Healthy Futures

Executive Snapshot (April)

- **Meals Served:** 53,242 total (*14,857 breakfasts | 38,385 lunches*)
 - **Total Reimbursements:** \$188,461.81
 - **Negative Meal Balance:** \$18,981.89
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1. Meal Service & Participation

During the month of March, the Nutrition Department served **14,857 breakfasts** and **38,385 lunches**, continuing to provide reliable access to nutritious meals for students across the district. Participation remains steady, with ongoing efforts focused on improving meal quality, presentation, and student engagement.

2. Financial Performance

The department received **\$168,995.49** in federal reimbursements for breakfast and lunch programs, along with **\$8,452.82** from the At-Risk Afterschool Program and daycare services, and \$11,013.50 with FFV for a combined total of **\$188,461.81**. These revenues are essential in sustaining program operations and supporting continued improvements in service delivery.

3. Negative Meal Balances

The district's current negative meal balance has increased this month to **\$18,981.89**. The breakdown by site is as follows:

- Acequia Elementary – \$161.15
- East Minico – \$717.35
- Heyburn Elementary – \$1,267.16

- Minico High School – \$9,399.68
- Mt. Harrison – \$2,249.75
- Rupert Elementary – \$3,998.98
- West Minico – \$1,187.82

While balances remain highest at Minico High School, we are seeing increase as we get to the end of the school year and will continue focusing on communication and support strategies to further decrease outstanding balances.

4. Programs & Initiatives

Summer Feeding Program

Final preparations are underway for the Summer Feeding Program. Our focus is on increasing participation, improving operational efficiency, and ensuring the program is both impactful and financially sustainable. The flyer will go out to the families this month. We are excited to offer 7-day meal boxes for all 9 weeks of the summer and hope it will help families in the district feel supported.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

The district has met the eligibility criteria to apply for CEP for the upcoming school year. We are still awaiting approval, which, if granted, would allow us to provide free meals to all students, significantly reducing financial burdens on families while stabilizing program funding.

District Food Pantry

Development of the district food pantry continues to move forward. We have acquired the Conex boxes, and we will start working on getting material and labor donations to build out the Pantry. This initiative will provide additional food support to families and strengthen our efforts to address food insecurity beyond the school day.

5. Staffing & Operations

We completed interviews for a permanent **Kitchen Manager position at Minico High School** and have hired Marissa Juarez who has been a cook for the district, at Minico for the last 5 years. She is training with our most seasoned manager for the rest of this school year. This will allow for a structured transition and training period with the current interim manager, ensuring continued operational stability and ongoing improvements in food quality and service.

6. Looking Ahead

Key priorities for the upcoming month include:

- Launching a successful Summer Feeding Program
- Continuing progress toward CEP approval
- Advancing development of the district food pantry
- Further reducing negative meal balances across the district