



# Nutrition Services

*Maria Terry, RD*

June 1, 2026



## Department Overview



7 Self-Operating Kitchens

Operate Under USDA Child Nutrition Programs

- School Breakfast Program
- National School Lunch Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- Cater for St. Mary's School - Lunch

# Department Composition

— 45 Total Employees:

- Director / Coordinator / Secretary
- 1 Courier
- 7 Kitchen Managers
- 34 Cook / Cashiers
- + Substitutes

# Department Training

25-26

— Provide All Day Training Camp for Back To School - *All Staff*

- “Soul of the School: How Lunchrooms are Critical in Connecting w/ Economically Challenged Kids & Families”
- Customer Service / Portion Sizes / Civil Rights / Special Diets / Allergies
- Offer vs Serve / HACCP / Goal-Setting / SNA Information







# Meals Served

## Total Reimbursable - School Meals

	20-21 <i>Free Meals</i>	21-22 <i>Free Meals</i>	22-23 <i>Paid</i>	23-24 <i>Free Meals</i>	24-25 <i>Free Meals</i>
Breakfast	216,260	307,285	~247,000	377,452	365,802
Lunch	320,473	520,489	~483,000	553,493	587,734

# Special Dietary Needs

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- Monthly Carbohydrate Counts for Menus
- Lactose Reduced Milk / Specialty Milk for 31 Students
- Specialized Dietary Menus for 49 Students

*Gluten Free / Dairy Free / Egg Free / Citrus Free / Fructose Free  
Peanut-Nut Free / Soy Free / Sesame Free / Cinnamon Free  
Low Fiber / High Calorie - High Protein / Combination - Allergies*

# Department Achievements

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25-26

- Hired Kitchen Manager / Cook/Cashiers:
  - KM for McKinley
  - 2 C/C for McKinley, 1 C/C for Wilson, 1 C/C for OMS
- Successfully Implemented Department's Linen Services
- Purchased New Dishwasher for OEC, New Serving Lines for Washington, Reach-In Cooler for McKinley & Wilson, New Condiment Cart for OHS
- Provided Breakfast in the Cafeteria for McKinley in May, with plans to offer all Elementary Breakfasts in the Cafeteria beginning 26-27



# Department Achievements

25-26

- Provided Staff Morale-Building Activities
  - Tailgate Lunch During Back To School Workshop
  - Homecoming Float - Handed out Local Apples
  - Informal Staff Get-Together at Local Restaurant
  - Celebrated School Lunch Hero Day
  - Celebrated School Breakfast Week









COMMUNITY PATHWAYS OF STEELE COUNTY, INC.

Community Pathways gratefully acknowledges the support of

# OWATONNA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

7,767
Meals

# of meals provided through the Retail Rescue Program in 2025



## Wellness Committee

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- Met Monthly During 25-26 School Year
- Conducted the CDC's School Health Index for Each Individual School
- Completing Triennial Assessment using the School Health Index

## Wellness Committee

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- Monthly Write-Ups for Connections Staff e-newsletter
- Developed Wellness Page on the District Website, identifying resources for staff & families [wellness](#)
- Promoted Every Kid Healthy Week in K-5



## What's Next ???

- Implement Breakfast in the Cafeteria for all K-5
- Continue to Build Up the Wellness Committee and Promote Overall Wellness in the District
- Add a Freezer to hold Commodity Products
- Work Towards a Kitchen Upgrade for Wilson

# 80 Years of Feeding Kids



June 4, 1946 - President Harry S. Truman signed the National School Lunch Act into law, establishing the National School Lunch Program as a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools.