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# GREENBUSH – MIDDLE RIVER

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2683

[www.middleriver.k12.mn.us](http://www.middleriver.k12.mn.us)

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## Office

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## ADMINISTRATION

Larry Guggisberg, Ed. D.  
*Superintendent*

Sharon Schultz  
*Principal / Athletic Director*

Shane Kilen  
*Chair*

Brandon Kuznia  
*Vice-Chair*

Carrie Jo Howard  
*Clerk*

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Joseph Melby  
*Treasurer*

Brandon Ignaszewski  
*Director*

Allison Harder  
*Director*

Kurt Stenberg  
*Director*

August 2022

Hello Greenbush Middle River School Families,

The Federal Legislation paid for school meals during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Federal legislation where students received free meals expired on June 30, 2022. We are asking families of students to complete an Application for Educational Benefits.\* Most people associate the Application for Educational Benefits with Free and Reduced Price Meals for our school meal program, but the benefits for those who qualify extend beyond school meals.

In previous school years (eg: during a non-COVID school year) in addition to your student receiving Free or Reduced Price Meals based on an approved Application for Educational Benefits form, there are other benefits your student would receive. The Application for Educational Benefits is also critical for receiving Compensatory Revenue from the State. Compensatory Revenue is a State aid that is generated from the number of qualified free and reduced price applications we process. These funds directly benefit the school your student attends.

There are various uses for this funding that allow us to improve the quality of education in the GMR School. For example, purchasing instructional materials and providing the technology to meet the needs of students are two of the ways funds are distributed. The funding also supports Federal programs like *Title I* that assist students challenged in the areas of math or reading. By submitting your student's application for educational benefits, you are directly helping generate funds for these programs and resources in the GMR School.

We have streamlined the application process by providing an online application option. You can access the form in the Food Service tab on the District webpage. For questions and more detailed information on how to access or fill out the online form, please visit the Food Services Tab on the School District webpage or call Larry Guggisberg in the District Office at 218-782-2232 ext. 205.

\* You do not have to fill out an application if you have Direct Certification. Direct certification is a process for determining student eligibility for free meal benefits based on documentation obtained directly from the appropriate state or local agency or other authorized individual.

State funds help to pay for reduced-price school meals, so all students who are approved for either free or reduced-price school meals will receive school meals at no charge. State funds also help to pay for breakfasts for kindergarten students, so all kindergarten students receive breakfast at no charge.

**The Application for Educational Benefits provides income guidelines for Free or Reduced price school meal eligibility. All information provided on the Application for Educational Benefits is confidential and is viewed by one (1) person [the Superintendent] in the District Office to determine eligibility.**

