

School Board Executive Summary

Topic: Nutrition Services Annual Update

Date: September 22, 2026

Presented by: Erin Vik, Director of Nutrition Services



Recommended Action: ☒ Information Only
☐ Presentation/Discussion
☐ Discussion/Action by Board of Education
☐ Presentation/Action Next Meeting

Recommendation: None at this time. Annual update on Nutrition Services, per policy 3400.

Background: *"Our mission is to fuel student success by providing nutritious, delicious, and accessible meals that support learning, health, and well-being. We are committed to fostering a positive food culture that empowers students to make healthy choices and ensure no child goes hungry."*



Overview of the School Year 2025/2026 and highlights for 2026/2027

Average Daily Participation. Average Daily Participation (ADP) is one measurement to determine success regarding Westside Nutrition Service's (WNS) meal programs. We take a monthly view of Year-Over-Year enrollment, free and reduced meal qualification, and the number of lunches and breakfasts served, and look at these as percentages in comparison. This gives some insight to any participation trends we may have, if we may need to change our menu process for breakfast and/or lunch, while also giving leadership some insight to possible "customer service" opportunities we have district wide or within a specific location. We then consolidate to look at the full school year. Although these past years will register dramatically differently given the unique nature of each, the past couple of years are the first YOY visual that looks more consistent in offering and therefore presents a closer comparison reference. Included here are the comparisons of this past March, April, and May of 2026. In addition I have also included a comparison year over year for the entirety of the school year, 2024/2025, compared to the same for 2025/2026.

MARCH 2024-2025

VS

MARCH 2025-2026

	24/25	%	25/26	%	Enrollment	24/25	Bkfts	25/26	BRKFST	Per Day	24/25	Lunches	25/26	LUNCH	Per Day	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
School	Enrollment	F/R	Enrollment	F/R	Change	BREAKFASTS	per day	BREAKFAST	PER DAY	Change	LUNCHES	per day	LUNCHES	PER DAY	Change	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP
HILLSIDE	392	54%	374	52%	-18	1061	82	1576	79	-3	3,593	276	4962	248	-28	79%	71%	71%	71%	74%
LOVELAND	283	28%	284	26%	+1	347	27	575	29	+2	2,625	202	4063	203	+1	76%	67%	69%	71%	71%
OAKDALE	309	20%	292	17%	-17	648	50	970	49	-1	2,982	229	4166	208	-21	86%	72%	76%	74%	79%
PADDOCK RD	285	49%	289	43%	+4	874	67	1254	63	-4	2,609	201	3990	200	-1	82%	73%	74%	70%	69%
PRAIRIE LANE	271	20%	282	21%	+11	400	31	714	36	+5	2,608	201	4150	208	+7	79%	67%	75%	74%	71%
ROCKBROOK	276	26%	267	24%	-9	537	41	582	29	-12	2,719	209	3931	197	-12	81%	70%	73%	76%	78%
SUNSET HILLS	300	11%	298	9%	-2	222	17	351	18	+1	2,659	205	3968	198	-7	71%	67%	69%	68%	69%
SWANSON	285	25%	294	23%	+9	412	32	600	30	-2	2,441	188	3836	192	+4	72%	67%	67%	66%	64%
WESTBROOK	684	45%	658	42%	-26	2876	221	3668	183	-38	5,148	396	7462	373	-23	62%	57%	57%	58%	60%
WESTGATE	297	64%	289	62%	-8	1696	130	1572	79	-51	3,355	258	4921	246	-12	85%	85%	86%	87%	89%
MIDDLE SCH	986	36%	1017	33%	+31	991	76	1579	79	+3	8,705	670	12653	633	-37	76%	65%	64%	68%	66%
HIGH SCHOOL	2128	33%	2104	36%	-24	1731	133	2547	127	-6	8,967	690	12639	632	-58	48%	38%	33%	32%	33%
TOTALS	6496	35%	6448	34%	-48	11,795	907	15988	799	-108	48,411	3,724	70741	3537	-187	67%	58%	57%	57%	58%

Please note: These are reimbursable numbers only and do not include daycare.

13 Operating day in 3/25. (Snow days) WHS ACT Testing Spring Break??

20 Operating Days in 3/26

ADP'S ARE LUNCHES ONLY

April 2024/2025

VS

April 2025/2026

	24/25	%	25/26	%	Enrollment	24/25	Bkfts	25/26	Bkfts	Per Day	24/25	Lunches	25/26	Lunches	Per Day	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
School	Enrollment	F/R	Enrollment	F/R	Incr/Decr	BREAKFASTS	per day	BREAKFASTS	per day	Change	LUNCHES	per day	LUNCHES	per day	Change	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP
HILLSIDE	391	54%	375	52%	-16	2033	97	1135	71	-26	5,757	274	4,091	256	-18	77%	71%	72%	70%	68%
LOVELAND	284	28%	284	26%	0	585	28	449	28	0	4,198	200	3,203	200	0	70%	64%	65%	70%	70%
OAKDALE	309	21%	292	17%	-17	1097	52	755	47	-5	4,814	229	3,301	206	-23	77%	74%	73%	74%	71%
PADDOCK RD	284	49%	287	43%	+3	1389	66	995	62	-4	4,089	195	3,182	199	+4	74%	74%	70%	69%	69%
PRAIRIE LANE	273	20%	282	21%	+5	878	42	638	40	-2	4,132	197	3,274	205	+8	76%	73%	73%	72%	73%
ROCKBROOK	276	26%	270	24%	-6	763	36	408	26	-10	4,436	211	3,161	198	-13	79%	72%	72%	77%	73%
SUNSET HILLS	302	11%	296	9%	-6	421	20	269	17	-3	4,188	199	3,090	193	-6	69%	66%	68%	66%	65%
SWANSON	286	25%	294	23%	+8	661	31	526	33	+2	3,876	185	2,969	186	+1	70%	67%	65%	65%	63%
WESTBROOK	686	45%	661	43%	-25	4672	222	3094	193	-29	8,362	398	5,982	374	-24	61%	57%	56%	58%	57%
WESTGATE	297	62%	289	62%	-8	2913	139	1129	71	-68	5,188	247	3,824	239	-8	84%	86%	83%	83%	83%
MIDDLE SCH	982	36%	1017	36%	+35	1813	86	1472	92	+6	13,867	660	10,328	646	-14	75%	66%	65%	67%	63%
HIGH SCHOOL	2126	34%	2108	34%	-18	3222	153	2339	146	-7	15,329	730	11,059	691	-40	51%	38%	35%	34%	33%
TOTALS	6496	35%	6455	34%	-41	20,447	974	13209	826	-148	78,236	3,726	57,464	3,592	-134	66%	58%	57%	57%	56%

Please note: These are reimbursable numbers only and do not include daycare.

21 operating days 24/25 (NO Spring Break)

16 operating days 25/26 (Spring Break)

ADP'S ARE LUNCHES ONLY

May 2024/2025

VS

May 2025/2026

	24/25	%	25/26	%	Enrollment	24/25	Bkfts	25/26	Bkfts	Per Day	24/25	Lunches	25/26	Lunches	Per Day	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
School	Enrollment	F/R	Enrollment	F/R	Incr/Decr	REAKFAS	per day	REAKFAS	per day	Change	LUNCHES	per day	LUNCHES	per day	Change	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP
HILLSIDE	391	54%	373	52%	-18	1582	93	1105	69	-13	4526	266	4003	250	4	69%	75%	68%	69%	67%
LOVELAND	284	29%	284	26%	0	501	29	346	22	-8	3365	198	2581	161	10	72%	73%	65%	64%	57%
OAKDALE	309	21%	292	17%	-17	846	50	810	51	-4	3871	228	3259	204	3	76%	78%	73%	72%	70%
PADDOCK RD	280	49%	287	43%	7	1023	60	1055	66	0	3292	194	3037	190	11	76%	73%	67%	65%	66%
PRAIRIE LANE	272	20%	281	21%	9	624	37	525	33	7	3082	181	2795	175	-9	75%	78%	68%	71%	62%
ROCKBROOK	276	26%	270	24%	-6	553	33	362	23	-6	3365	198	2970	186	1	77%	79%	70%	70%	69%
SUNSET HILLS	302	12%	298	9%	-4	338	20	268	17	-10	3084	181	2783	174	11	69%	65%	62%	59%	58%
SWANSON	287	25%	294	23%	7	531	31	473	30	-10	3221	189	2987	187	7	61%	70%	66%	63%	63%
WESTBROOK	676	45%	657	43%	-19	3250	191	3014	188	-78	5623	331	5375	336	-54	56%	59%	53%	54%	51%
WESTGATE	297	64%	288	62%	-9	2160	127	1157	72	-18	4337	255	4016	251	4	85%	82%	82%	78%	87%
MIDDLE SCH	980	36%	1010	36%	30	1408	83	1302	81	-43	9943	584	8918	557	-34	60%	68%	59%	54%	55%
HIGH SCHOOL	2117	34%	2042	33%	-75	2266	133	2016	126	-3	9594	564	8923	558	-57	37%	42%	35%	29%	27%
TOTALS	6471	36%	6376	34%	-95	15082	887	12433	777	-184	57303	3371	51647	3228	-13	58%	62%	55%	52%	51%

Please note: These are reimbursable numbers only and do not include daycare.

17 operating days 24/25

16 operating days 25/26

ADP'S ARE LUNCHES ONLY

Total SY 2024/2025

Vs

Total SY 2025/2026

	24/25	%	25/26	%	Enrol.	24/25	Bkfts	25/26	Bkfts	Per Day	25/26	24/25	Lunches	25/26	Lunches	Per Day	23/24	24/25	25/26
School	Enrol.	F/R	Enrol.	F/R	Chang	BRKF	per	BRKF	per day	Chang	B.ADP	LUNC	per	LUNC	per	Chang	ADP	ADP	ADP
HILLSIDE	391	54%	373	52%	-18	15381	89	12036	70	-19	17.79%	45711	264	42556	246	-18	69%	68%	66%
LOVELAND	284	29%	284	26%	0	4609	27	4562	26	0	9.29%	33221	192	33693	195	3	65%	68%	69%
OAKDALE	309	21%	292	17%	-17	8469	49	8246	48	-1	15.43%	39595	229	36190	209	-20	73%	74%	72%
PADDOCK ROAD	280	49%	287	43%	7	10865	63	10865	63	0	22.43%	33905	196	34059	197	1	70%	70%	69%
PRAIRIE LANE	272	20%	281	21%	9	6041	35	5693	33	-2	12.10%	33315	193	34256	198	5	73%	71%	70%
ROCKBROOK	276	26%	270	24%	-6	6085	35	4290	25	-10	8.98%	35256	204	33935	196	-8	71%	74%	73%
SUNSET	302	12%	298	9%	-4	3077	18	2538	15	-3	4.86%	33856	196	33946	196	1	65%	65%	66%
SWANSON	287	25%	294	23%	7	5236	30	4630	27	-4	9.33%	31857	184	31988	185	1	65%	64%	63%
WESTBROOK	687	45%	657	43%	-30	38654	223	35137	203	-20	29.56%	67208	388	65089	376	-12	57%	57%	57%
WESTGATE	297	64%	288	62%	-9	23516	136	15797	91	-45	30.74%	42632	246	42632	246	0	80%	83%	86%
MIDDLE SCH	980	36%	1010	36%	30	14097	81	14413	83	2	8.50%	115800	669	115190	666	-4	66%	68%	66%
HIGH SCHOOL	2059	33%	2042	33%	-17	23394	135	24799	143	8	6.96%	126435	731	121346	701	-29	36%	35%	34%
TOTALS	4365	36%	4334	34%	-31	136,030	786	118,207	683	-103	15.65%	512,356	2962	503,534	2911	-51	57%	68%	67%
Please note: These are reimbursable numbers only and do not include daycare.																			
173 Days in 23/24																			
173 Days in 24/25																			
173 Days in 25/26																			

Westgate and Westbrook Elementary were anomalies in their overall ADP. Both have been qualified for Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), which allows all students at both locations to receive free meal benefits for both breakfast and lunch. Both locations showed a participation increase at lunch time from a percentage base, but a drop for breakfast daily numbers. Due to building needs, Westbrook, midyear, discontinued breakfast in the classroom and transitioned to breakfast in the cafeteria only. WNS is continuing discussions with building leadership to determine what is best for the students at Westbrook. Westgate has continued to utilize breakfast in the classroom. The decrease year over year is due to daily counts that were not accurately accounted for at the building level. WNS has been working with the new principal at Westgate and this issue seems to be resolved. We will continue to monitor this. One additional note and an annual reminder, Westbrook's enrollment on this report is somewhat inflated due to non-public school enrollment, which is also included in our overall enrollment numbers. These students obviously do not eat so, therefore, percentages for Westbrook are inflated due to about 100 non-public students included in our reporting.

Westside High school for each of the months and the year or year listed show a decrease in participation for lunch (breakfast had a slight increase). Beginning in December 2025, because of the construction of the new cafeteria, students needed to eat in the Activity Gym. We saw a noticeable decrease in participation at this time. The good news is we have a new cafeteria and, while the verdict is out as the year is early, student response thus far to the new space has been extremely positive and we hope this will translate into stronger participation. Open campus always provides some curveballs. Important note as well, we have had Cafe Express open for almost the entirety of last year. This outlet was previously closed for two plus years due to staffing challenges at Westside High School.

Contracted Meals. A major transition happened this past year. Tamara Steifvater, who ran our contracted meal kitchen for over a decade, retired at the end of December 2025. Thea Lefave has

now taken over this position and is doing a great job. Overall, this past year contract meals averaged around 6000 lunches and 1600 breakfasts daily serving.

Access 66. There was not a tremendous amount of transition last year with Access 66. We continued our partnership with the Food Bank of the Heartland in providing after school suppers for 10 locations. Access 66 also continued to supply boxed lunches for Film Streams educational programs. Access 66 continues to serve roughly 3,500 after-school suppers for the Food Bank partners per week. In addition to 100 to 450 box lunches a week when Film Streams have their sessions.

Focuses to start the new school year 2026/2027.

Update for SY2026/2027. LB966, **Hunger Free Schools Act** was passed by the Nebraska Unicameral in April of 2026. 2026–27 school year begins a five-year pilot program that covers the full cost of school breakfast and lunch, making meals completely free for students from families qualifying for reduced-price meals. Reimbursement for districts and schools will be based on previous numbers accounting for reduced meals served. This first year reimbursement will be based on reduced meals served from the school year 2024/2025. Each district will supply the state with their meals served in October to then get a full reimbursement in November. Obviously, this reimbursement is not apples to apples regarding the fiscal spend, but we do hope Westside families that qualify for reduced meals see a great benefit.

Free and Reduced Meal applications. To receive free or reduced meal benefits a household would and will need to qualify, either through existing programs like SNAP, or by qualifying income per household. All students who are not qualified for either free meal benefits had to pay the appropriate cost for either full or reduced meal price. As previously mentioned, both those students qualifying for free meals and reduced priced meals will all receive meals at no cost this year and for the next 5 years. Traditionally households will have 30 school days to get re-qualified and will be temporarily categorized with their previous status. This grace period end date is September 25, 2026. As of September 17, 2026, we have 423 students in Free or Reduced-temporary status, which is standard for this time of year. The district is at 34.35% for its overall free and reduced percentage down from last year at this time (36.22%). With this is a decrease year over year, we anticipate some of this decline may be due to the government discontinuing direct certification for certain programs. Additionally, the parameters to qualify by income was a more significant increase this year over previous years. While households can still qualify via an application, this process tends to cut down the amount of students who qualify. One note however, we cannot quantify the CEP effect on this number as the households at the qualifying schools do not have to fill out applications as the qualifying percentage is based on direct certification for free through the before mentioned programs. The listing that follows shows by school the most up to date information.

Eligibility Statistics by School Report

1- Westside Community Schools

Info is as of 8/31/2026 12:15 AM

School Name	Free		Reduced		Free + Reduced		Paid		DC	Cat Elig	Income	Denied (Federal)	Enrollment	Non-Reimb
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%						
Hillside Elementary	140	37.14%	51	13.53%	191	50.66%	186	49.34%	122	2	67	7	377	64
Loveland Elementary	46	16.79%	22	8.03%	68	24.82%	206	75.18%	39	2	27	0	274	43
Oakdale Elementary	24	8.33%	19	6.60%	43	14.93%	245	85.07%	24	0	19	0	288	64
Paddock Road Elementary	71	25.72%	33	11.96%	104	37.68%	172	62.32%	67	0	37	9	276	49
Prairie Lane Elementary	27	10.23%	23	8.71%	50	18.94%	214	81.06%	32	1	17	1	264	67
Rockbrook Elementary	47	17.41%	22	8.15%	69	25.56%	201	74.44%	52	0	17	2	270	58
Sunset Hills Elementary	25	8.83%	4	1.41%	29	10.25%	254	89.75%	26	0	3	1	283	69
Swanson Elementary	45	15.36%	20	6.83%	65	22.18%	228	77.82%	39	1	25	2	293	57
Westbrook Elementary	198	33.11%	60	10.03%	258	43.14%	340	56.86%	214	1	43	5	598	216
Westgate Elementary	148	51.57%	33	11.50%	181	63.07%	106	36.93%	150	0	31	3	287	117
Westside Career Center	42	66.67%	10	15.87%	52	82.54%	11	17.46%	37	0	15	0	63	64
Westside High School	545	26.41%	171	8.28%	716	34.69%	1348	65.31%	472	4	240	13	2064	239
Westside Middle School	275	25.99%	96	9.07%	371	35.07%	687	64.93%	247	5	119	11	1058	114
Totals	1633	25.54%	564	8.82%	2197	34.35%	4198	65.65%	1521	16	660	54	6395	1221

Changes for Contracted Meals and Access 66. Again for this upcoming year we have had some shifts in our contracted locations. Westside is no longer providing meals for St. Roberts or Concordia. We anticipated St. Roberts and were notified this past winter that they would not be returning due to cost to them as well as quantity, not quality, of the menu mix (they were used to five options where we offer three.) They averaged roughly 200 meals a day. Concordia had gone through recent renovations and now has a commercial grade kitchen so they moved to self-managed as well. Concordia averaged about 70 meals a day.

With the exit of these locations, we are currently in discussion with St. Bernards Catholic School, enrollment currently at about 100 students, and the Phoenix Academy, which has recently been taken over by Nelson Mandela schools that we contract with. Enrollment is similar to St. Bernards at 100 students. The current business level overall with all 27 sites back in session is between 5500 and 6200 lunches daily, and additional 1500-1700 breakfasts. Busy!

Access 66 has not had any major changes going into this year. We currently have 10 organizations that partner with the Foodbank where we deliver after school suppers. In addition, we supply Filmstreams Theaters box lunches for their education programs. This year, in addition to high schools, Filmstreams is piloting an elementary program so we expect to have more meals there as well.

People and Product. Staffing has improved and is probably at the best it has been for the start of a school year. All elementary locations are fully staffed, Westside Middle School has fallen into a traditional level, needing 1 or 2 new kitchen assistants. Westside High School is similar to Westside Middle School and is in need of a couple of dishwashers and a server or two. We continue to recruit strong new members to the Westside Nutrition Services Team while working with Human Resources and the district team to focus on retention opportunities.

Product sourcing has been better but we are anticipating additional price increases for the near to mid future due to the world and how it is right now. We do our best to project needs across our menu mix, the constant change in all things food and supplies makes it truly difficult to predict where we will be. Working with our suppliers, particularly our main supplier Sysco Lincoln, we have, on paper, strong pricing, better than last year, to begin this year. Currently we are experiencing traditional beginning of the school year challenges that should mitigate out over the course of the semester. We have been told that the issues the state experienced in commodity product deliverables will not happen again this year. This past year due to the loss of roughly \$175,000 worth of (free) product ordered and not received from the DHHS/USDA, this translated into approximately \$250,000 in additional and non budgeted costs for the year.

Participation Focus 2026/2027. With one month into the new school year we can provide a comparison for YOY percentage of participation. Important here is to view the difference in free and reduced percentages of all schools. In addition, for this past month of August 2026, there were only 13 service days compared to 17 in August of 2025. Traditionally when we see a lower F/R percentage, participation generally decreases. As a district as a whole, participation was down two points YOY for the month of August. There could be some possible anomalies but we will have a few more months to truly confirm.

	AUG 24/25 VS 25/26																			
	25/26	%	26/27	%	Enrollment	25/26	Bkfts	26/27	Bkfts	Per Day	25/26	Lunches	26/27	Lunches	Per Day	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27
School	Enrollment	F/R	Enrollment	F/R	Incr/Decr	Breakfasts	per day	Breakfasts	per day	Change	Lunches	per day	Lunches	per day	Change	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP
HILLSIDE	372	54%	377	51%	5	1013	60	709	55	-16	3958	233	2981	229	-4	68%	63%	62%	63%	61%
LOVELAND	279	24%	274	25%	-5	401	24	316	24	+12	3153	186	2270	175	-11	67%	60%	65%	67%	64%
OAKDALE	297	20%	298	15%	1	732	43	456	35	+1	3508	206	2529	195	-11	73%	70%	74%	69%	65%
PADDOCK RD	284	46%	276	38%	-8	820	48	440	34	-2	3164	186	2255	173	-13	74%	64%	67%	65%	63%
PRAIRIE LANE	278	21%	264	19%	-14	534	31	307	24	+1	3323	196	2289	176	-20	71%	69%	71%	71%	67%
ROCKBROOK	271	23%	270	26%	-1	425	25	253	19	-6	3359	198	2454	189	-9	75%	69%	71%	73%	70%
SUNSET HILLS	297	11%	283	10%	-14	242	14	227	17	+3	3304	194	2141	165	-29	67%	62%	65%	65%	58%
SWANSON	283	24%	293	22%	10	379	22	309	24	+3	2942	173	2323	179	6	61%	60%	62%	61%	61%
WESTBROOK	626	47%	599	43%	-27	3501	206	2159	166	-1	5971	351	4833	372	21	59%	52%	58%	56%	62%
WESTGATE	289	62%	287	63%	-2	1842	108	1109	85	-28	3835	226	2948	227	1	69%	82%	81%	78%	79%
MIDDLE SCH	1026	39%	1058	35%	32	1350	79	1117	86	+10	11861	698	8791	676	-22	70%	69%	69%	68%	64%
HIGH SCHOOL	2128	37%	2127	35%	-1	2184	128	1487	114	+19	13847	815	10373	798	-17	43%	40%	38%	38%	38%
TOTALS	6430	36%	6406	34%	-24	13,423	789	8,889	684	-15	62,225	3,662	46,187	3553	-109	60%	56%	57%	57%	55%
Please note: These are reimbursable numbers only and do not include daycare.																				
17 days 08/25																				
13 days 08/26																				

Budgetary focus. Westside Nutrition Services budget over the past three years has been an extreme challenge. Due to the volatile nature of the prices and the many inputs that can affect them, we have increasingly needed to take on a much more aggressive approach, specifically on food costs. We continue to limit and eliminate some products originally brought in due to low staffing that did not need a lot of labor but came at a slightly higher cost. With this we are utilizing additional overlap between the contracts', elementary schools' and Access 66 menu to increase our efficiencies and limit the need for greater mise en place.

Again this year, there is pricing. Traditionally any increase in any meal costs has never been greater than \$.10 for Westside schools, and no more than \$.15 for the contracted schools. For the school

year 2025/2026 we needed to take a more aggressive approach to the fees we charge. For all Westside schools lunch pricing was raised \$.15 a meal and breakfast is up \$.20 per meal. For the school year 2026/2027, we took a more aggressive approach pricing, not only factoring bridging a fiscal gap but also as a comparison to other metro and surrounding districts' pricing. In essence we are maintaining our initial focus of trying to keep pricing affordable but utilizing a model that keeps us inline with other districts, not out pricing them but keeping us relatively similar to the higher priced markets. While Westside is higher, it is not the highest.

WCS Meal Pricing. Below are WCS current lunch prices compared to some surrounding districts pricing from the school year 2026/2027.

- Elementary Breakfast from \$1.90 to \$2.40. The highest breakfast pricing is \$2.50 (Wahoo) and \$2.45 (Gretna and Blair).
- Elementary Lunch from \$2.90 to \$3.30. The highest lunch prices are \$3.60 (Springfield), \$3.50 (Wahoo), and \$3.30 (Gretna and Blair).
- WMS Breakfast from \$2.10 to \$2.50. The highest breakfast prices are \$2.70 (Wahoo), \$2.50 (Fort Calhoun), \$2.45 (Gretna and Springfield/Platteview.).
- WMS Lunch from \$3.25 to \$3.60. Highest middle school lunch prices are \$3.80 (Springfield), \$3.75 (Wahoo), \$3.70 (Elkhorn), \$3.60 (Blair).
- WHS Breakfast from \$2.25 to \$2.65. Highest high school lunch prices currently are \$2.80 (Elkhorn) and \$2.70 (Gretna and Wahoo).
- WHS Lunch from \$3.95 to \$4.00. Currently WHS is the highest for lunch at \$3.95. Next pricing is \$3.90 (Elkhorn) and \$3.85 (Gretna and Millard).

Price increases are also a focus for both our contracted accounts, up \$.20 per meal (over a \$.35 increase for the SY25/26), as well as Access 66, up \$.40 per meal (over a \$.50 increase in SY25/26). We feel this new pricing should mitigate the deficit we have experienced the last two years.

We have implemented some additional strategies to both bridge a budgetary gap and generate more meals in our respective schools and ensure best pricing as well accounting for meals across the district. Strategies focus on expanding any and all marketing of our program within the district to generate additional meals sold, a weekly review of pricing on all items being purchased to ensure accurate and best priced goods, and a more granular review and understanding of our monthly menus in real time to adjust original programming if and when price shifts may occur.

We feel that these strategies position the department to not only provide interesting, tasty and nutritious meals, but also ensure the best case scenario regarding budgetary need.

Attachment(s): None