

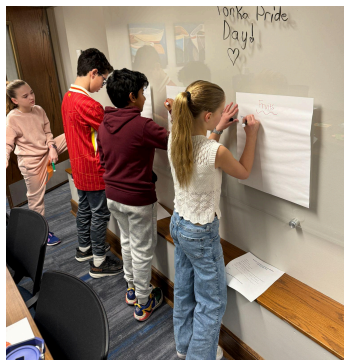
# TONKA FRESH

## A Monthly Newsletter from Minnetonka Nutrition Services *April 2025*

Welcome to Tonka Fresh, the official newsletter of Minnetonka Nutrition Services! This month's edition highlights special events coming up in the next few weeks. Read on to learn more about Student Choice Menus, School Lunch Hero Day, and our local partner in providing students' top menu pick each month.

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### **Student Choice Menus: Elementary Schoolers Designing School Lunches for Their Peers**



The time is almost here! Groups of fifth grade leaders, selected by their principals, have been working hard for the past couple of months to gather feedback from their peers, collaborating to design Student Choice Menus. Student leaders began the menu building process by making lists of favorite foods and thinking up new menu ideas for each of the food groups served daily (grains, proteins, fruits and vegetables). After careful consideration of what they thought would be enjoyable to all elementary students across the district, they voted on their top choices in each category.

In May, elementary students will be able to enjoy three different Student Choice Menus throughout the month. Students can look forward to some highly-requested items that we have never served before, paired alongside current menu favorites. We cannot wait to share these delicious meals, designed by our hardworking and creative students!

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### **Local Partner Spotlight: Pizzaioli is a Long-Standing Partner and Student Favorite**

Pizzaioli, a locally owned and operated pizza company in Chanhassen, has been a partner of Minnetonka Nutrition Services for more than 10 years! Its tasty pizzas are served to students as part of our menu rotation, which consistently represents the top school lunch participation days each month.



Pizzaioli's small pizza shop provides Minnetonka Nutrition Services with more than 700 pizzas each week. How do they do it? They have a double-stacked pizza oven that can cook four pizzas each minute! The best part is that their pizza recipes are tailored specifically for our students so that they meet the nutritional requirements of the National School Lunch Program.

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### **National School Lunch Hero Day: Celebrating the Staff Who Feed Minnetonka Students**



The Minnetonka Nutrition Services staff work hard each day to provide students with nutritious, tasty breakfasts and lunches. On May 2nd, we celebrate these dedicated individuals with National School Lunch Hero Day.

This day is to celebrate the commitment and positivity our teams in each kitchen bring to our school community. Kitchen staff will be wearing their hero capes on this special day as we honor their important role of connecting with students and serving nutritious meals. If you see any of these heroes, be sure to give them an extra “thank you” for their hard work!

[Read more about a few of our school lunch heroes in this feature story from earlier this year.](#)

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Did you miss a previous month's edition? Check out all [past newsletters](#) on the Nutrition Services Department website.

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### **Stay Connected! Follow @TonkaFresh on Instagram**

Join us on Instagram to peek behind the scenes and see what goes into making Minnetonka Nutrition Services. Follow [@TonkaFresh](#) for updates on new menu items, vendor spotlights, Q&As and more!