

THE MONTHLY FEED - April 2026

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NUTRITION SERVICES

Lincoln County School District

School Meals • Gardens • Food Pantry



What's GROWing on in LCSD school gardens?

April has arrived, and it's hard not to notice how quickly the days are stretching longer and brighter. That shift isn't just exciting for us, it's a powerful signal to the natural world. As daylight increases and temperatures rise, plants are waking from dormancy and springing back to life. It's one of the most energizing times of the year, full of possibility and growth. With so much happening all at once, it's a season that rewards curiosity and attentiveness, blink, and you might miss something amazing.

In our school gardens, that sense of renewal is well underway. Garden beds are being refreshed and prepared for the busy growing season ahead. Students, staff, and volunteers have been at work clearing winter weeds, making space for new plants to thrive. Snap peas are germinating, and our kindly donated purple potatoes are beginning to sprout. Our garlic and shallots have resumed their growth, while blueberries and fruit trees are beginning to leaf out and bloom.



Indoors, we're starting seedlings to give us a head start on the season and preparing for our upcoming plant sales in May. It's a busy and exciting time in the gardens, and we're thrilled to see students engaged in every step of the process, from soil preparation to seed starting, building skills and connections that will last well beyond the season.

Spring is truly in motion, and we're ready to grow right along with it.



Pesto-perfection!

The Newport High STEP Transition Program students have achieved a remarkable feat: they have harvested over **17 pounds** of basil this year using hydroponic towers right in their classroom! This fresh basil is being used to make delicious pesto, which has quickly become a popular ingredient in school lunches. Be sure to look for the "Garden Blooms Pizza" every Monday in April, featuring an alfredo pesto base and fresh vegetables!



April 10th

Beef Enchilada Casserole made with Gibson Farms local beef.


April 13th

Pesto Tuna Burger made with local tuna and student made Pesto from Basil grown in our school garden!

Free language assistance, auxiliary aids, and/or accommodations are available upon request. Meal accommodations can also be made to support medical needs as well as some preferential dietary needs.

Please contact your school, Nutrition Services, or email jamie.nicholson@lincoln.k12.or.us

 @lcsdschoolgardens

 @Lincoln County Oregon School Gardens

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM (FFVP)

FFVP is an important tool in our effort to combat childhood obesity. The program has been successful in introducing elementary school children (K-8) to a variety of produce that they otherwise might not have the opportunity to try.

Some of this month's offerings include: Baby Candy Striped Beets, Tiny Cucumbers, Cotton Candy Grapes, and Blackberries

Did You Know?

Technically blackberries are not berries at all. Instead, each fruit is an aggregation of dozens of tiny fruits called drupelets.



drupelet • any of the small individual parts containing a single seed that together form a fruit such as a blackberry.

Download **nutrislice** from the App store for your school's menu

School kitchens have received 197.37 pounds of produce and herbs from School Gardens and Hydroponics this school year! Way to go LCSD School Gardens.

