

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 20, 2023 www.sde.idaho.gov Media Contact:
Maggie T. Reynolds
Public Information Officer
208-332-6976
mreynolds@sde.idaho.gov

## 14 Idaho Schools Get USDA Grant Funds for Kitchen Equipment

(BOISE) - The Idaho Department of Education has awarded \$129,459 in federal grant funding through its Child Nutrition Programs to help 14 schools to purchase new equipment for their National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

The department received the funding through the United States Department of Agriculture Equipment Assistance Grant. Individual grant awards will fund new equipment including freezers, ovens, refrigerators, mixers and dishwashers.

The application process was competitive, with 24 School Food Authorities (SFAs) submitting grant applications totaling more than \$535,849 in equipment requests. Factors in the selection process included consideration of the age of food service equipment or lack of appropriate items, availability of existing state and local funding for equipment purchases, strategies for adopting lunchroom changes that provide more convenience and appeal to the student and opportunities to realize meaningful impacts on the nutrition and quality of meals.

Schools receiving 2023 grant awards include:

| School Food<br>Authority | Site                              | Equipment                      | Grant Award |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Fruitland                | Fruitland High<br>School          | Milk Cooler                    | \$2,299.00  |
| Payette                  | Payette Food Service<br>Warehouse | Refrigeration Unit             | \$9,426.00  |
| St. Maries               | Upriver School                    | Electric Cook/Holding<br>Oven  | \$12,158.18 |
| MacKay School            | District                          | Reach In Refrigerator          | \$5,493.03  |
| Plummer Worley           | Lakeside Middle /<br>High School  | High Temperature<br>Dishwasher | \$12,733.75 |
| Meadows Valley<br>School | Meadows Valley<br>School          | Reach In Refrigerator          | \$3,166.85  |

| School Food<br>Authority         | Site                       | Equipment                               | Grant Award |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---|-------------|
| Orofino                          | District                   | Counterbalance<br>Walkie Reach Truck    | \$16,680.00 |
| Elevate Nampa                    | Nampa                      | Fridge/Freezer Combo                    | \$4,628.74  |
| Westside School<br>District      | Westside High<br>School    | Mixer                                   | \$11,010.41 |
| Caldwell                         | Jefferson Middle<br>School | Dishwasher                              | \$13,826.96 |
| Blaine County<br>School District | Carey School               | Double Deck Electric<br>Convection Oven | \$12,085.00 |
| Valley School<br>District        | District                   | Heated<br>Holding/Proofing<br>Cabinet   | \$2,408.00  |
| Northwest Children's<br>Home     |                            | Gas Oven                                | \$7,218.00  |
| West Ada                         | District                   | Outdoor Walk in<br>Freezer              | \$16,325.08 |

Grant awards are contingent upon available USDA funds.

More information about <u>Child Nutrition Programs</u> is available on the Idaho Department of Education website.