

SEPTEMBER 2014

# Food for Thought: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual New Jersey School Breakfast Report



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**Giving Every Child A Chance**

# Food for Thought: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual New Jersey School Breakfast Report

## About the NJ Food for Thought School Breakfast Campaign

Led by Advocates for Children of New Jersey and the New Jersey Anti-Hunger Coalition, the NJ Food For Thought School Breakfast Campaign is driven by a statewide steering committee that includes the New Jersey Departments of Agriculture, Education and Health, anti-hunger and health groups and New Jersey's major education associations. The campaign's national partners are the Food Research and Action Center, the American Dairy Association and Council and the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association.

The statewide committee is working to build widespread support for school breakfast expansion, as well as assisting local efforts to expand participation.

**For more information, visit**  
[www.njschoolbreakfast.org](http://www.njschoolbreakfast.org)

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NJ Partnership for Healthy Kids  
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NJ PTA  
NJ School Boards Association  
NJ School Nutrition Association

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# NJ Schools Addressing Hunger, a Major Barrier to Learning

*“Breakfast after the bell” drives student participation up 55 percent*

By Nancy Parello

The number of low-income New Jersey students eating breakfast at school has jumped an encouraging 55 percent since 2010, giving more children the nutrition they need to succeed in school.

The number of children receiving free/reduced-priced school breakfast rose from about 136,000 children in October 2010 to almost 211,000 in May 2014. The percent of eligible children receiving school breakfast also increased from 30 percent in 2010 to 41 percent in 2014.

That means that nearly 75,000 additional low-income children across New Jersey are getting a healthy breakfast on any given school day, translating to an estimated 13.5 million more breakfasts served over the course of the school year. This significant progress helps to address childhood hunger and ensure that children who come to school hungry receive the nutrition they need to concentrate and learn.

In addition, the number of children living in higher-income families who ate breakfast at school also rose 20 percent — a sign that a growing number of parents who can afford to pay for breakfast prefer to have their children eat at school.

This increase is largely the result of more districts changing the way they serve breakfast. Traditionally, New Jersey schools have served breakfast before school — when children have not yet arrived. That is changing. A growing number of school officials are realizing that this is an ineffective way

to reach hungry children. More districts are now serving breakfast during the first few minutes of the school day. Known as “breakfast after the bell,” this approach significantly boosts student participation in the federally-funded School Breakfast Program.

Not only are these districts feeding more children, addressing childhood hunger and overcoming a major barrier to learning, they are also bringing back more federal dollars to feed New Jersey school children. The federal government reimburses states based on how many meals schools serve. According to the New Jersey FY 2015 state budget, school districts are expected to collect \$21 million more in federal funds, for a total of \$77 million, compared to about \$56 million in FY 2012. This substantial increase is the result of more New Jersey students eating breakfast at school. (These funds can only be used to cover costs related to school breakfast).



## New Jersey Statewide School Breakfast Totals

	2010	2014	% Change
Total Student Enrollment	1,364,495	1,368,487	0
Number Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price School Meals	448,306	519,131	16
Percent Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price School Meals	33	38	15
Number Students Receiving Free Breakfast	123,293	193,651	57
Number Students Receiving Reduced-Price Breakfast	12,520	17,290	38
Total Number Students Receiving Free/Reduced-Price Breakfast	135,813	210,941	55
Number Students Receiving Paid Breakfast	26,387	31,630	20
Grand Total All Students Receiving Breakfast (Free, Reduced, Paid)	162,200	242,571	50
% of Low-income Students Receiving School Breakfast (Participation Rate)	30	41	34

**Note:** Total number of students receiving breakfast in each category represents the average daily participation for October 2010 and May 2014. Paid breakfasts do not include data from Somers Point, Montague Township or Academy Charter HS as they were unavailable.

## Still Too Many Hungry Kids

Despite this progress, roughly 308,000 low-income children still were not receiving breakfast at school. This is partly due to a growing number of children who qualify for free- or reduced-price school meals, increasing 15 percent from 2010 to 2014 when 519,000 New Jersey children lived in families earning too little to meet all of their nutritional needs.

Another major problem is that too many districts continue to serve breakfast before school — when children have not arrived. Bus and family schedules and other factors often prevent children from arriving at school with enough time to eat before the first bell rings. This practice continues at 50 high-poverty New Jersey districts, despite widespread evidence that this approach fails to feed hungry children. (ACNJ identifies these “school breakfast underachievers” in a chart on page 7).

Since state law mandates that all school districts with 20 percent or more eligible children serve breakfast, these high-poverty districts do spend resources to operate a school breakfast program. But these districts serve so few children that federal reimbursements are a fraction of what they could be if they served breakfast just a few minutes later, during the first part of the school day.



Some school officials are reluctant to change the way breakfast is served because of logistical concerns, such as clean-up and lost instructional time. Yet, school leaders in New Jersey districts now serving breakfast after the bell routinely report that these challenges are easily overcome. In addition, the New Jersey Departments of Education and Agriculture have issued two memos encouraging school leaders to serve breakfast

*To qualify for free breakfast, a family of four in the 2013–14 school year could earn no more than \$30,615 per year and \$43,568 for a reduced-price meal.*

after the bell and directing that this meal time can count towards instructional time.

Hungry students struggle to concentrate. Providing breakfast removes a major barrier to learning. Serving breakfast after the bell is the most effective way to ensure children get a healthy meal at the start of each school day.

New Jersey spends billions of local and state tax dollars each year on public education. Expanding school

**“Breakfast after the bell is a very beneficial program to the students,” said one Harrison principal. “It can be implemented successfully with collaboration from all involved.”**

breakfast participation leverages that investment. This change can be accomplished with very little or no additional cost to state and local taxpayers. Because schools are reimbursed per meal served, New Jersey schools would simply reclaim more of the dollars that state taxpayers already send to the federal government. Well-nourished children are more likely to succeed in school.

That’s good for children, parents, the entire school community, taxpayers and our state.

## The Benefits of Breakfast After the Bell

When children eat breakfast, research shows the following results:

- Better academic performance
- Less disruptive student behavior
- Fewer trips to the school nurse
- Increased attendance
- Reduced tardiness
- Reduced childhood obesity



## Breakfast Champions: The Top 20

Districts with high concentrations of students living in low-income families can benefit most from effective school breakfast programs. To spotlight high-poverty districts that are successfully serving breakfast, ACNJ identified the top 20 districts with the highest percent of eligible students eating breakfast among all districts with 50 percent or more children qualified to receive free- and reduced-price school meals.

The average participation rate of low-income students in these 20 districts was 73 percent in May 2014 — far

surpassing the statewide average of 41 percent. These districts alone served about 32,000 children each day.

The top three performers were Academy Charter High School, Egg Harbor City and Woodbine. Participation rates ranged from 97 percent at Academy Charter to 68 percent in Jersey City. All 20 districts should be commended for their efforts to ensure that their students begin the school day with a healthy meal.

### School Breakfast Champions, Top 20 districts of those with 50% or more eligible children

County	School District	# of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Breakfast	Eligible Students as % of Total Enrollment	Total Receiving Free/ Reduced-Price Breakfast	% Eligible Students Served
Monmouth	Academy Charter High School	163	80	158	97
Atlantic	Egg Harbor City	389	79	356	92
Cape May	Woodbine	152	70	139	91
Union	The Barack Obama Green Charter High*	144	71	128	89
Sussex	Montague	128	55	111	87
Passaic	Paterson Charter School for Science/Technology	675	64	585	87
Somerset	Bound Brook	1,258	73	1,034	82
Cape May	Lower Township	1,018	56	833	82
Camden	Camden Community Charter School	148	99	117	79
Hudson	East Newark	223	88	176	79
Cumberland	Fairfield	500	83	394	79
Monmouth	Hope Academy Charter School	182	89	142	78
Camden	Camden	11,135	95	8,662	78
Essex	Marion P. Thomas Charter School*	649	88	494	76
Cape May	Wildwood	745	85	567	76
Essex	Pride Academy Charter School	221	84	164	74
Camden	Environment Community Charter School	204	90	150	74
Atlantic	Atlantic City	6,522	89	4,706	72
Essex	Newark Educators Charter School	201	73	140	70
Hudson	Jersey City	19,524	71	13,320	68
<b>Total/Average</b>		<b>44,181</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>32,376</b>	<b>73</b>

\* Data as of April 2014

## More Breakfast Champs

The following chart shows the top 20 school districts among districts with smaller concentrations of low-income students, ranging from 20 to 49 percent of the total enrollment. In these districts, the average student participation was 69 percent, also higher than the statewide average of 41 percent. One district —

Greenwich — reported serving 100 percent of eligible students, although the number of low-income students in this district was just 13. Participation rates ranged from 100 percent in Greenwich to 51 percent in Waterford and Charter~Tech High School. These 20 districts served almost 5,000 students.

### School Breakfast Champions, Top 20 district of those with 20-49% eligible students

County	School District	# of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Breakfast	Eligible Students as % of Total Enrollment	Total Receiving Free/ Reduced-Price Breakfast	% Eligible Students Served
Cumberland	Greenwich	13	20	13	100
Hudson	The Ethical Community Charter School	89	32	87	98
Cumberland	Compass Academy Charter School	42	41	41	98
Cape May	Cape May	72	45	62	86
Mercer	Pace Charter School Of Hamilton	72	49	60	83
Burlington	New Hanover	74	38	60	81
Atlantic	Mainland Regional	375	26	281	75
Burlington	Renaissance Regional Leadership Charter School	59	37	42	71
Salem	Quinton	144	42	100	69
Gloucester	Franklin Township	488	35	309	63
Somerset	Central Jersey College Prep Charter School	130	42	77	59
Middlesex	Edison	3,207	22	1,865	58
Cumberland	Hopewell	118	23	67	57
Atlantic	Folsom	166	38	94	57
Bergen	East Rutherford	276	36	153	55
Morris	Morris	1,694	33	928	55
Cape May	Lower Cape May Regional	593	42	321	54
Burlington	Bass River	32	29	17	53
Camden	Waterford	272	30	140	51
Atlantic	Charter~Tech High School	148	45	75	51
	<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>8,064</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>4,792</b>	<b>69</b>

## High-Poverty Districts Making Progress

Many New Jersey school officials are working to improve the number of students receiving school breakfast. This past year, 23 high-poverty school districts posted at least a 15 percent increase in their school breakfast participation and achieved a student participation rate of at least 50 percent.

Academy Charter High School, Woodbine and The Barack Obama Green Charter High School were the top three districts making the most progress. School leaders and staff at all of these districts should be commended for working to ensure that all their students begin their day with a healthy meal.

### High-Poverty Districts Making Progress (At least 50% Eligible Students)

County	School District	Percent Eligible Students Served April 2013	Percent Eligible Students Served May 2014	Percent Change
Monmouth	Academy Charter High School	83	97	17%
Cape May	Woodbine	70	91	31%
Union	The Barack Obama Green Charter High School	22	89	300%
Passaic	Paterson Charter School for Science/Technology	54	87	59%
Somerset	Bound Brook	16	82	425%
Hudson	East Newark	36	79	121%
Camden	Camden City	45	78	73%
Essex	Newark Educators Community Charter School	37	70	86%
Hudson	Jersey City Community Charter School	23	68	202%
Middlesex	New Brunswick	27	67	150%
Gloucester	Woodbury City	52	66	27%
Essex	Irvington	28	66	136%
Cumberland	Bridgeton	53	61	16%
Cumberland	Upper Deerfield	53	59	11%
Hudson	Union City	34	58	72%
Mercer	Paul Robeson Charter School for the Humanities	50	58	15%
Bergen	Englewood	36	56	53%
Gloucester	Paulsboro	48	55	15%
Cumberland	Commercial Township	46	53	16%
Mercer	Trenton	36	52	46%
Monmouth	Keansburg*	44	51	15%
Essex	People's Preparatory Charter School	37	50	34%
Essex	TEAM Academy Charter School	43	50	15%

\* Data as of April 2014

## School Breakfast Underachievers

Unfortunately, other districts continue to lag behind. In May 2014, 49 school districts with at least half of their students eligible for free- and reduced-price breakfast served the morning meal to less than 31 percent of these low-income students. While concerning, this is an improvement from last year, when 66 school districts were on the “School Breakfast Underachievers” list.

In these districts alone, close to 50,000 of New Jersey’s needy children did not receive school breakfast. If all eligible students received breakfast each school day, these 49 districts would receive an estimated total of

\$16 million more in federal funds to provide school breakfast each school year — and their students would have a healthy morning meal that can help them succeed in school. (These funds can only be used for breakfast — not to offset other educational expenses).

This amplifies the need for districts with high child poverty to serve breakfast-after-the-bell to boost student participation. It is especially important for superintendents to provide leadership on this issue. School officials with effective programs say that superintendent support is essential to school breakfast success.

## School Breakfast Underachievers

County	School District	# of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Breakfast	Eligible Students as % of Total Enrollment	% of Eligible Students Receiving Breakfast	# of Eligible Students NOT Receiving School Breakfast	Total Possible Federal Reimbursement**
Camden	Brooklawn	190	56	5	181	\$60,928
Hudson	Guttenberg	799	78	7	743	\$248,989
Essex	Robert Treat Academy Charter School	431	72	7	400	\$132,408
Hudson	Kearny	3,385	57	9	3,080	\$1,017,900
Bergen	Lodi	2,075	63	10	1,866	\$607,832
Hudson	Soaring Heights Charter School	116	52	10	104	\$33,167
Essex	Belleville	2,603	59	10	2,332	\$765,258
Monmouth	Keyport	576	53	10	516	\$170,764
Bergen	Fairview	978	77	11	870	\$291,168
Passaic	Haledon	728	72	11	647	\$214,925
Passaic	Prospect Park	743	85	14	639	\$214,202
Middlesex	Carteret	2,450	65	15	2,087	\$686,075
Cape May	North Wildwood	160	50	16	135	\$45,063
Burlington	Riverside	779	54	16	652	\$216,140
Essex	North Star Academy Charter School Of Newark	2,246	84	18	1,847	\$608,855
Passaic	Clifton	6,109	56	18	4,994	\$1,653,383
Union	Rahway	2,122	57	18	1,731	\$568,196
Union	Linden	3,570	59	19	2,906	\$953,035

*continued on following page*

County	School District	# of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Breakfast	Eligible Students as % of Total Enrollment	% of Eligible Students Receiving Breakfast	# of Eligible Students NOT Receiving School Breakfast	Total Possible Federal Reimbursement**
Union	Queen City Academy Charter School	199	80	19	161	\$52,936
Passaic	John P Holland Charter School*	177	93	19	143	\$47,407
Passaic	Passaic Arts And Science Charter School	353	84	19	285	\$92,961
Essex	Burch Charter School Of Excellence	294	86	20	235	\$78,057
Camden	Camden Academy Charter High	367	83	20	292	\$97,448
Essex	Merit Prep Charter School Of Newark*	171	74	20	136	\$45,457
Monmouth	Highlands	111	64	21	88	\$29,290
Monmouth	Bradley Beach	148	50	21	117	\$38,561
Burlington	Edgewater Park	464	53	21	366	\$121,489
Somerset	North Plainfield	2,185	67	22	1,709	\$565,607
Hudson	University Academy Charter School	335	79	22	261	\$85,552
Bergen	Englewood On The Palisades Charter School	103	52	22	80	\$26,352
Essex	Visions Academy Charter School	252	59	23	195	\$65,637
Morris	Dover	2,116	69	23	1,634	\$539,328
Monmouth	Belmar	331	59	23	255	\$85,941
Union	Hillside	2,031	68	23	1,563	\$509,692
Camden	Camden's Promise Charter School	414	92	23	317	\$105,737
Camden	Woodlynne	344	93	24	260	\$87,534
Burlington	Burlington	1,063	61	24	803	\$268,915
Ocean	Ocean Gate	77	57	25	58	\$19,138
Atlantic	Brigantine	380	53	25	286	\$94,273
Hudson	Jersey City Golden Door	319	66	25	238	\$78,592
Essex	Newark Prep	255	84	25	190	\$63,288
Union	Plainfield	6,274	88	26	4,650	\$1,562,401
Bergen	Cliffside Park	1,805	62	26	1,330	\$437,392
Middlesex	Academy For Urban Leadership Charter School	231	58	26	170	\$56,430
Mercer	Foundation Academy Charter School	465	85	27	341	\$111,364
Camden	Clementon	294	64	27	214	\$69,347
Gloucester	Glassboro	1,096	50	29	777	\$256,613
Bergen	Garfield	3,357	71	29	2,377	\$782,006
Hudson	North Bergen	4,963	62	30	3,471	\$1,154,914
	<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>61,031</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>48,729</b>	<b>\$16,117,949</b>

\*Data as of April 2014

\*\* Based on all eligible students eating breakfast 180 school days.



## And the School Breakfast Challenge Winners Are...

In 2013, the NJ Food for Thought New Jersey School Breakfast Campaign issued a challenge to districts to increase the number of students eating a healthy breakfast at school, giving them the fuel they need to concentrate and learn.

Sixty-two districts entered the challenge. Six winners were chosen — three from North/Central Jersey and three from South Jersey — based on the greatest increase in the number of students eating breakfast at school during the challenge period — September 2013 to May 2014. Winning districts also had to have at least 50 percent of eligible, low-income students eating breakfast at school.

### And the winners are...

#### North Jersey

- 1st place — Bound Brook
- 2nd place — New Brunswick
- 3rd place — East Newark

#### South Jersey

- 1st place — Quinton
- 2nd place — Flosom
- 3rd place — Trenton

### School Breakfast Challenge Winners

School District	2013-14 Total Student Enrollment	# Students Eligible Free/ Reduced School Meals, 2013-14	Eligible Students As % of Total Enrollment, 2013-14	% Eligible Students Receiving Free/ Reduced-Price Breakfast, May 2014	Total # Students Receiving Breakfast, Sept. 2013	Total # Students Receiving Breakfast, May 2014	% Change in # for ALL Students Receiving Breakfast, Sept 2013 to May 2014
<b>North Jersey Winners</b>							
Bound Brook	1,714	1,258	73	82	211	1,402	564%
New Brunswick	8,158	7,141	88	67	2,007	5,021	150%
East Newark	254	223	88	79	79	195	147%
<b>South Jersey Winners</b>							
Quinton Township	340	144	42	69	81	129	59%
Folsom	433	166	38	57	114	155	36%
Trenton	10,005	8,954	89	52	4,478	5,214	16%

Bound Brook and Quinton both earned a \$5,000 food service equipment grant and a visit from an NFL player. The 2nd and 3rd place winners received a \$2,000 and \$1,000 food service equipment grant, respectively, to sustain breakfast service.

The challenge was sponsored by the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council, the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association, Advocates for Children of New Jersey, the New Jersey Education Association and the NJ Food for Thought School Breakfast Campaign.

While the winners succeeded in increasing their breakfast participation rates during the challenge period, it should be noted that several districts that registered for the challenge had already achieved high student participation prior to the start of the challenge, with many continuing to increase those rates during the challenge period. The following districts achieved at least 60 percent participation among low-income children. ACNJ and the Food for Thought Committee commends these districts for their efforts to feed hungry children.



## NJ School Breakfast Challenge Honorable Mentions

School District	2013-14 Enrollment	# Students		% Eligible Students Receiving Free/Reduced-Price Breakfast, May 2014
		Eligible Free/Reduced School Meals, 2013-14	Eligible Students as % of Total Enrollment	
Egg Harbor City	491	389	79	92
Woodbine	218	152	70	91
Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology	1,055	675	64	87
Essex County Vo Tech	2,197	1,868	85	79
Camden	11,660	11,135	95	78
Atlantic City	7,310	6,522	89	72
Jersey City	27,571	19,524	71	68
Perth Amboy	9,988	8,517	85	67
Irvington	6,684	4,957	74	66
Newark	34,976	29,495	84	66
Woodbury City	1,506	979	65	66
Bridgeton	5,510	5,098	93	61

For a complete list of districts participating in the challenge, visit [www.njschoolbreakfast.org](http://www.njschoolbreakfast.org).

## Harrison Sees Students Benefit from Breakfast After the Bell

When the Harrison School District switched to serving breakfast after the bell, student participation in this critical program soared from 13 percent in 2010 to 58 percent of all low-income children in May 2014. That's more than 950 kids on any given day.

Advocates for Children of New Jersey conducted a survey to get first-hand feedback about implementation of breakfast after the bell and how it has affected the Harrison school community. The results were telling.

Before implementing breakfast after the bell, three-quarters of teachers and principals said they encountered a student hungry in the morning either some of the time or often. The majority of parents surveyed (80 percent) said that time constraints were one of the biggest challenges in ensuring their children eat breakfast before leaving for school. Most parents felt strongly that without breakfast in the classroom, many of their children's classmates would start the day on an empty stomach.

The idea of incorporating breakfast into the school day initially received mixed support from teachers and principals. While 40 percent were supportive, 27 percent opposed the idea and 33 percent were neutral. Once off the ground, however, support grew to 67 percent. In fact, 60 percent of respondents would recommend breakfast in the classroom to their colleagues.

As one principal put it, "Try it! It really is worth it!"

Most important, students are benefitting. School officials reported fewer visits to the school nurse (54 percent) and better concentration (51 percent)

**"Any minor inconvenience that can occur related to breakfast is outweighed by the student running to school on a Monday morning because they haven't had a good meal since they left school on Friday," one Harrison teacher said. "The necessity of such a program becomes clearly evident on Monday mornings."**

among students. More than half of the parents surveyed (57 percent) also agreed that without school breakfast, their child might not eat breakfast at home every school day or be as prepared and ready to learn.

Half of principals said they initially faced resistance from teachers and one-third worried that delivering meals to the classroom and clean-up would be challenging. Among teachers, the biggest concerns prior to implementation were lost instructional time, clean-up issues and fear of ants or other pests.

These anticipated obstacles turned out to be easily overcome. Eighty-five percent of teachers reported successfully transitioning to breakfast after the bell within one to three weeks.

"Any minor inconvenience that can occur related to breakfast is outweighed by the student running to school on a Monday morning because they haven't had a good meal since they left school on Friday," one Harrison teacher said. "The necessity of such a program becomes clearly evident on Monday mornings."

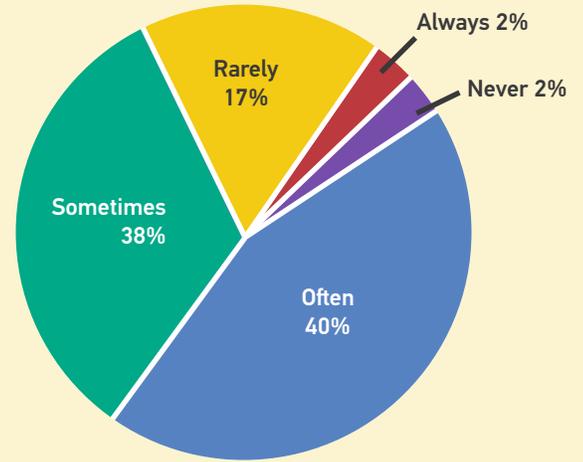
In January 2012, the New Jersey Departments of Education and Agriculture addressed loss of instructional time by issuing a joint memorandum that said breakfast time can be counted as instructional time. Furthermore, since it usually takes about 15 minutes for kids to finish eating, teachers can also use breakfast time to start the day's lessons or tend to housekeeping tasks. And, with students focused and ready to learn, instructional time becomes more productive. The key to success is developing a system that works for students and staff.

According to the principals surveyed, other factors that led to successful implementation included:

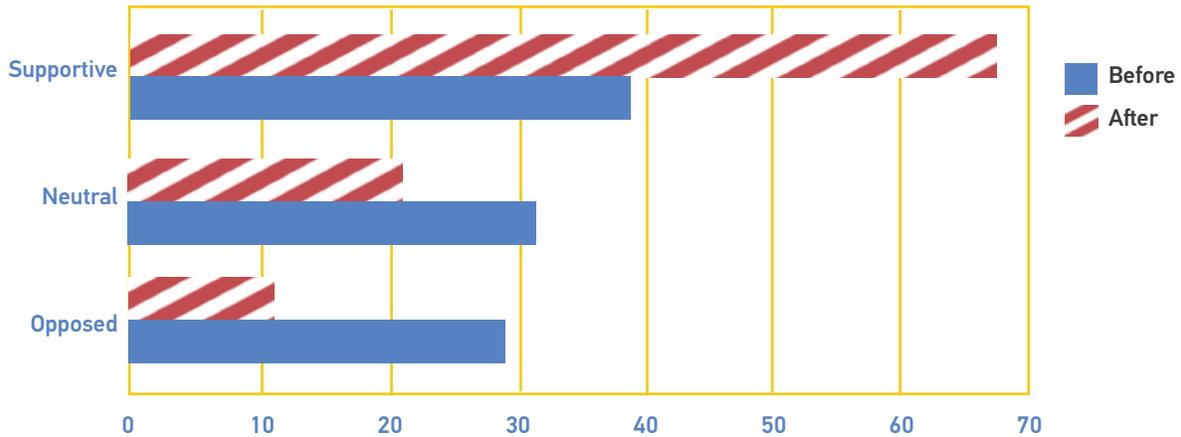
- Working closely with teachers during early implementation stages (83 percent)
- Increasing number of trash bins around school building or classroom (83 percent)
- Communicating with parents about the program (100 percent)
- Conducting teacher training sessions (67 percent)

“Breakfast after the bell is a very beneficial program to the students,” said one Harrison principal. “It can be implemented successfully with collaboration from all involved.”

### Before Breakfast After the Bell How Often Were Students Hungry in the Morning



### Percent Support Among Harrison School Officials for Classroom Breakfast Before and After Implementation



## Fresh Ways to Serve School Breakfast

### Breakfast in the Classroom

Classroom breakfast dramatically increases school breakfast participation, often to nearly 100 percent of students. Typically, food services staff members pack meals into insulated containers for each classroom and deliver to the classrooms before the first bell rings. Some districts have student monitors who deliver breakfast to the classrooms. Students come into the classroom, grab their meal and sit down to eat. When breakfast is over, students dispose of their trash in garbage cans for custodial staff to collect.

### Grab-and-Go Breakfast

Breakfast carts are stationed at the entrance of the school or in other high traffic areas. Upon entering the building, children "grab" a nutritious breakfast and "go" to their first period class. This model is often used in middle and high schools.

### Second Chance Breakfast

Often, teenagers are not hungry when they arrive at school. Sometime before lunch, though, their stomachs start to rumble. Serving breakfast after first period, commonly known as "Second Chance Breakfast," allows students to eat when they are hungry. Students are offered meals, often Grab-and-Go style, either between classes or during a "nutrition break" that occurs later in the morning.

### Breakfast Boosts — Help is available!

New Jersey school districts may qualify for grants and other technical assistance through various organizations to more effectively serve school breakfast.

New Jersey Department of Agriculture can provide guidance on various issues. Contact Arlene Ramos-Szatmary at (609) 984-0692 or [arleen.ramos-szatmary@ag.state.nj.us](mailto:arleen.ramos-szatmary@ag.state.nj.us).

The American Dairy Association and Dairy Council provides technical assistance and grants to central and North Jersey school districts, [www.adadc.com](http://www.adadc.com).

The Mid-Atlantic Dairy Council provides technical assistance and grants to South Jersey school districts, [www.dairyspot.com](http://www.dairyspot.com).

Advocates for Children of New Jersey has compiled a list of school officials with successful breakfast programs who are willing to assist other neighboring districts with tackling the logistics of breakfast after the bell. Contact Reginald Dorsey at [rdorsey@acnj.org](mailto:rdorsey@acnj.org).

For more information and resources, visit [www.njschoolbreakfast.org](http://www.njschoolbreakfast.org).

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