

**Northwest Local School District
Elementary Schools
Suburban - Cincinnati, Ohio in Hamilton County
Innovative Breakfast Model**



2020 Champion of Breakfast

Collaborators

- Supervisor of Food Service & Staff
- District Administration, Director of Business Operations
- Principals, Teachers, Custodians
- No Kid Hungry-Grant, Children's Hunger Alliance

Serving Strategy

- Breakfast in the classroom (BIC) at 3 elementary schools.

Goals

- Offer BIC to increase access and participation in breakfast .
- Offer breakfast at no-charge.
- Remove stigma associated with breakfast at school.
- Students are nourished and prepared to learn.

Results

- Breakfast participation increased 40% over the previous school year.
- 79% of students eat breakfast everyday.
- Revenue doubled at each building with a 24% decrease in labor costs and increase in productivity.
- Students are more attentive and ready to learn.
- Decrease in hunger-related school nurse visits



In 2017-2018, Child nutrition staff approached district administration and building principals to pilot BIC as a way to increase access and participation in breakfast. Only 38% of students ate breakfast, because of late late drop off times and socializing with other students. Child nutrition was given the go ahead to pilot breakfast in one building at the end of the school year. BIC proved successful and the district was on board to implement BIC at 3 new elementary buildings the upcoming school year.

Over the summer, the Food Service Supervisor and Director of Business Operations worked with the building principals, teachers and custodians to explain how BIC would be implemented in their buildings. Mobile carts were purchased for each building along with other start-up supplies; bins, ice blankets and insulated hot bags for each school.

In 2018-2019, Northwest Local Schools initiated Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), offering breakfast at no-charge to all students. BIC was implemented at the 3 new elementary schools, Struble, Taylor, and Pleasant Run. Offering BIC eliminated the stigma often associated with breakfast. Breakfast participation increased 40% over the previous school year. 79% of students eat breakfast every day!

Breakfast revenue doubled and meals per labor hour increased resulting in a 24% decrease in labor costs, helping the bottom line of the child nutrition budget. Building principals report that the environment is calmer with less noise in the hallways, students are more attentive and hunger-related nurse visits have decreased.



Northwest Local School District Struble, Taylor, Pleasant Run Elementary Schools

