

# Breakfast in the classroom



The Breakfast in the Classroom initiative takes the traditional school breakfast approach and improves it with one key ingredient: The classroom.

Breakfast becomes available to everyone – no matter their income level – and it’s served after the opening bell. This makes it easier for all children to easily participate. The approach is simple. Children eat together in the classroom, usually the homeroom, at the start of the school day. The bags are prepared by the cafeteria staff each morning. Food is kept to the appropriate temperature and beverages are kept cold in an insulated roller cooler bag.

The children go to the cafeteria and get assigned classroom bag. Students then eat breakfast while the teacher takes attendance, collects homework, and/or gives instructions for the day. Teachers will mark breakfast sheets as the children get their breakfast. This is considered point of sale for each child if they obtain a breakfast. If a student is absent the teacher will indicate and mark an “A” on the breakfast sheet. The paperwork is placed in the teacher’s folder and returned to the cafeteria manager each morning.

If a child is not present on a given day the manager will VOID out that child’s breakfast and we do not claim the child as eating. We confirm this count by the daily attendance sheet provided from the office as not being at school. Once the manager receives the rosters she verifies the count and enters each class through point of sale. Grades 9-12 (High School) eat in the cafeteria. Students pick up items on the serving line; enter pin number at POS and are served in the cafeteria for breakfast.

If any additional nonperishable breakfast items are left from that morning breakfast items will be placed on a community table to be share by others students that would like extra breakfast.

The trash is placed in the hallway for the custodians to pick up and the cooler bags are brought to the cafeteria for cleaning and next day preparation.

Eating breakfast at school helps children learn. Children are less likely to be absent. They’re less likely to see the school nurse. They focus and behave better in class. The teachers have given great support and positive feedback from this program and the benefits of the breakfast in the classroom.

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider.”