



# 2017 School Breakfast Challenge: School Champion Success

## Innovative Breakfast Models:

**School / District Name:** BL Miller Elementary School, Sebring Local Schools, Rural

**Champion Award Nominee:** Breakfast in the Classroom

BL Miller Elementary School launched Breakfast in the Classroom at the beginning of the 2016/2017 school year and now more than 80% of their students eat breakfast every day! They attribute their success to the team effort of dedicated staff that includes food service, the building custodian, teachers, principal, superintendent and student volunteers. Beyond participation rates, breakfast in the classroom has made a positive impact on the school environment. The school nurse reports that clinic visits are down and teachers report that students are focused on the task at hand and don't ask "it is almost lunch time?"

**School / District Name:** Chillicothe High School, Chillicothe City Schools, Urban

**Champion Award Nominee:** Steve Semanick, Business Education Teacher

Starting January 2016, Chillicothe High School students began operating Cavalier Café as part of a Marketing Capstone class through Pickaway Ross Vocational School in coordination with food service staff and the guidance counselor. The Cavalier Café is open from 7:30 – 11:15 and utilizes Google classroom to accept food and drink orders from students, and has in classroom delivery. The Cavalier Café has increased student access to breakfast, assists students in learning to operate a small business, and utilizes Google technology that has been featured by Google as one of the most tech savvy schools. Students can purchase coffee and pick up their no cost grab n go breakfast at the Cavalier Café. Since the café has extended hours of operation, offers a variety of menu selections AND delivery to the classroom, breakfast participation has increase by the hundreds. The Cavalier Café purchases coffee from FiveLoaves, an organization that provides food and clothing to the local community. This partnership has led to the creation of the "Cavalier Closet", that serves Cavalier families and students with food, clothing, a personal item pantry and supports students that are involved in the vocational student youth organizations.

**School / District Name:** Clark-Shawnee Elementary & Middle Schools, Clark-Shawnee Local Schools, Rural

**Champion Award Nominee:** Breakfast in the Classroom

Clark Shawnee Elementary and Middle schools implemented Breakfast in the Classroom (BIC) with grant funding from the American Dairy Association Mideast and Children's Hunger Alliance for initial startup costs. Theirs was a collaborative effort by food service, classroom teachers, custodians, and administrators at the building and district level. Initially perceived as a disruption to the classroom, however BIC is now fully operational and all staff see tremendous value to students beginning their day with a healthy breakfast and ready to learn. Breakfast participation increased from 175 per day to now approximately 600 students eat breakfast daily! The school reports better behavior, a stabilization of the food service fund. Teamwork makes their breakfast program excel! Clark-Shawnee Local Schools received recognition as Children's Hunger Alliance Breakfast Program of the Year for 2017.

**School / District Name:** Edison Local Elementary & High School/Edison Local Schools, Rural

**Champion Award Nominee:** Matt Morrison, Principal, Edison Local High School

Edison Local Schools decided to take the School Breakfast Challenge in February of 2017! With support of the superintendent and a team that included the food service director, high school and two elementary principals,



encouraged students and staff to eat breakfast. The elementary schools added a grab n go line to their cafeteria where students could get their breakfast quickly and take to the classroom to eat. The high school also implemented grab n go and a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance breakfast. All 3 schools now have more than 50% of their students eating breakfast at school!

**School / District Name:** Mayfield High School/Mayfield City Schools, Suburban

**Champion Award Nominee:** Sandi Smith, Cafeteria Manager

Mayfield High School child nutrition staff explored new ways to increase breakfast participation and with buy in from the students and principal, a coffee bar was added to breakfast in January of 2017 with the help of a Fuel Up to Play 60 grant. The coffee bar created an environment that attracted more students to the cafeteria each morning and has paid off with increased food service revenue with breakfast increases from 60 to 75 meals per day AND improved milk consumption of high schoolers.

**School / District Name:** Piqua Central Intermediate School, Piqua City Schools, Urban

**Champion Award Nominee:** Lois Wion, Administrative Assistant

At Piqua Central, the food service, custodians, secretaries, school nurse and guidance counselors meet every Friday for the **Principal's Pow Wow** and discuss ways to best serve their students. Monthly, this group meets with teachers and other classified staff to find innovative ways to help students access food, clothing and other services. At Piqua Central Intermediate, nearly 200 students eat breakfast daily. Breakfast menus have 10-15 choices each day and includes 3 hot items. Breakfast is served in the cafeteria, as well as grab-n-go, and 2<sup>nd</sup> chance breakfast for late arrivals. This year, the school initiated the "Principal Breakfast of Champions" honoring students that earned all A's for the quarter. Students receive a written invitation and can bring a guest to attend the Principals Breakfast of Champions. Our community partnerships support the Principal's breakfast and donate their food, time, supplies. Breakfast participation has increased and teachers report that more students are engaged in learning. The grab-n-go breakfast and the "Principal Breakfast of Champions" can be easily replicated at our other schools.

### Tradition of Excellence:

**School / District Name:** Columbus City Schools, Urban

**Champion Award Nominee:** Joseph Brown, Food Service Director

Columbus City Schools credits the success of their breakfast program to the ongoing collaboration between administrators, food service staff, teachers and students. It has been the district policy to develop the best service method and breakfast strategy based on the needs of the school. As a result, schools may serve traditional breakfast in the cafeteria, grab and go, breakfast in the classroom or a combination of service methods. Over the past two years' breakfast participation has increased by 15.1% which is an additional 595,264 meals served! Menus are planned based on nutritional quality and student preferences. Because of the dedication and collaboration of individuals at the building and district level, Columbus City Schools has been recognized as a Breakfast Challenge recipient for the past several years. Sixty-one schools have received the Breakfast Challenge Award and 62% of students receive breakfast at school. Serving the student needs not only provides for a healthy start to the day but has helped build the fund balance to continue to invest in students and staff.

**School / District Name:** Hilliard-Tharp 6<sup>th</sup> Grade School, Hilliard City Schools, Suburban

**Champion Award Nominee:** Dana Schultz, Innovative Media Specialist

**Breakfast Champion Success:** Meal Quality, Tradition of Excellence

Dana, the media specialist promoted school breakfast in the media center/library and helped to educate students on the importance of breakfast. Dana worked with community organizations and the food service staff to host a smoothie recipe competition. The entire student body sampled smoothies, and the favorite smoothies was added to the breakfast menu. The media center also hosted breakfast at book fairs and promotes breakfast through bulletin boards, signage and other student centric materials.

