



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State is committed to ensuring that every child has access to nutritious meals all year long, and dedicated to expanding access to and enhancing current school breakfast programs in the state to ensure that our children are provided with a positive start to each school day, an important component of their good health, and every means for a successful educational experience; and

Whereas, New York State has shown its commitment to ending hunger through the No Student Goes Hungry program launched in 2018, which includes programs such as Breakfast After the Bell, to help to address the problem of hunger among students; and

Whereas, the School Breakfast Program has served our nation admirably since it was permanently established in 1975 and joins – and has been joined – through the years by many other excellent child nutrition programs; and

Whereas, Breakfast After the Bell programs, which make breakfast part of the school day, are desirable and effective ways of ensuring more students realize the benefits and importance of breakfast; and

Whereas, research shows that school-age children who experience hunger have higher levels of absenteeism, nurse's visits, and have more challenges than children receiving a well-balanced diet; and

Whereas, recent studies have shown that meals provided at school not only contribute to the nutritional needs of students, but also significantly increase and enhance their ability to learn; and

Whereas, along with parents, teachers, and school food personnel we all, as a society, share responsibility for providing our children in communities across this state with vital fundamental resources needed to grow, learn, discover their own potential, and live happy fulfilling lives; and

Whereas, offering breakfast as part of the school day improves children's diets, builds healthy, lifelong eating habits, and allows students to begin their days focused and ready to learn, and these benefits are maximized when eligible schools offer free meals to all students at no cost; and

Whereas, starting this September, nearly 1,400 schools across New York State are now serving Breakfast After the Bell to students of all ages and we take this opportunity to recognize the efforts made by schools, their principals, teachers, food service directors, and cafeteria staff to ensure the health, safety, and success of our children;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2018 as

SCHOOL BREAKFAST DAY

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twentieth day of September in the year two thousand eighteen.


Governor



Secretary to the Governor
Melissa DeRosa