

Finally, a New Year's resolution that's easy to keep!

Your kids may already be approved for meal benefits at school, and, if they haven't been approved yet, the application is quick and easy. **So why not resolve to take advantage of this great service every day?** When your kids join us for breakfast and lunch, you can rest assured that they're eating nutritious meals – and your family can **put the savings toward meals for the evenings and weekends.** Kids who are approved for meal benefits are **never identified at school in any way** -- all students have an account with us, so very little actual money is exchanged on the lunch line, and **no one knows which kids are paying and which are receiving free or reduced-price meals.** This New Year, resolve to do your kids -- **and your family budget** -- a favor. Encourage your kids to take advantage of their meal benefits at school every day!



Did you know?

- ▶ *Between breakfast and lunch, each day's school meals provide more than half of your child's dietary needs.*
- ▶ *Kids who take advantage of our school meals consume more calcium and more servings of fresh fruits and veggies on average than those who pack a meal from home.*
- ▶ *Studies show that kids who eat a good breakfast as close as possible to the start of the school day pay better attention in class, behave better, and score higher on standardized tests.*
- ▶ *Kids get hungry on their own schedule! If they're not hungry first thing in the morning, that doesn't mean they won't be by the time they get to school. And even if they eat a little something at home, they might need to eat again before classes start.*

If you have any questions or concerns about our programs or your eligibility for free or reduced-price meals, please call us at

207-874-8231

School Meals
We serve education every day™

Portland Public Schools Food Service