Breakfast After the Bell

HB 1295

Not all Kids are coming to school ready to learn. Many are missing breakfast and, without that meal, their chance to succeed at school is drastically reduced, and Washington ranks 43rd for school breakfast participation. The good news is there's a solution: Breakfast After the Bell incorporates the most important meal into the school day – just like lunch!

**Barriers to Breakfast**

Serving breakfast in the cafeteria before the school day starts presents many obstacles for kids and families. Bus and carpool schedules, social stigma, and peer pressure are barriers that prevent kids from eating school breakfast.

Moving breakfast after the bell removes these barriers and increases participation.

**A Guarantee for the Kids Who Need It Most**

HB 1295 would give kids in high needs schools food where and when it matters.

Schools where at least 70% of students are eligible for free or reduced price meals would be required to offer breakfast after the start of the school day.

- This impacts 400 high-needs schools – 17% of schools statewide
- 25,000 students would be reached across the state daily
- $23+ million in federal funding dollars would be drawn down
- Ensure classroom breakfasts that include instructional activity count towards instructional time

Schools have had the option to opt-into doing breakfast after the bell, but school participation has remained low. Kids in high-needs schools need a guarantee.

**Support for Start-Up Costs**

Once Breakfast After the Bell is implemented and participation increases, the additional federal draw down improves the financial health of breakfast programs.

To help reach this point, financial support up to $6,0000 will be provided to schools impacted by this legislation in order to help with start up costs.

Schools have the flexibility to choose the model they'd like for serving breakfast after the bell, such as Grab and Go, Second Chance Breakfast, or Breakfast in the Classroom.

For more information, contact
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