



537 Main Street, Suite 12
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www.EosFoundation.org

Congratulations to Brockton and this year's Healthy Start Schools

At an event at the Statehouse on April 30th, 2015, the Eos Foundation was proud to recognize Brockton Public Schools and our partners from 11 districts and 53 schools across Massachusetts for their commitment to support universal free, after the bell, breakfast in the classroom (BIC) as a powerful tool to fight childhood hunger, and boost academic achievement in our high-need communities.

Massachusetts ranks 44th in the country in school breakfast participation – 44th out of 50 states – and collectively schools statewide are leaving more than \$25,000,000 in Federal reimbursements on the table due to low school breakfast participation.

There is much work to be done in our Commonwealth to address this issue, and Brockton Public Schools along with schools in Chicopee, Holyoke, Lawrence, Malden, New Bedford, Salem, Springfield, Taunton, Webster and Worcester are leading the state in a growing movement to adopt BIC as the program to best boost school breakfast participation, prepare children to learn each school day, and draw down those Federal reimbursements.

The Eos Foundation's Healthy Start Awards recognize schools in Massachusetts that are reaching and maintaining 80% school breakfast participation rates. The dedicated team efforts of these schools' administrators, teachers, custodians, food service staff, school secretaries and nurses ensure hungry children in Massachusetts start their school day with a nutritious breakfast, ready to learn.

"This is best program I have introduced into my school in my 14 years as a principal," said Lynn Clark, Principal of the Stefanik K-5 school in Chicopee.

This year's Healthy Start Leadership Award and accompanying \$10,000 grant recognized Superintendent Kathleen Smith of Brockton and her Breakfast Implementation Team leads Mary Ellen Kirrane, Department Head of Wellness, K-8 and Tom Burke, Chartwells Food Service Director for Brockton. Brockton Public Schools are the first in the Commonwealth to commit to expand BIC programming across all 18 district schools serving grades PK-8. Their teamwork and commitment to the children they serve is nothing short of inspiring.

"We have found that Breakfast in the Classroom reduces student tardiness, nurse and office referrals and that it actually increases time on learning," said Superintendent Smith. "We believe Breakfast in the classroom is a win-win for our schools, students and families, and Brockton Public Schools is proud to expand access to this important program across our district."

Additional Healthy Start Awards and a \$500 grant celebrated a total of 53 Massachusetts schools for their efforts to reach and maintain 80% or higher average daily participation (ADP) in their school breakfast program during the 2014-2015 school year.



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Schools recognized include:

Brookfield Elementary School – Brockton, MA
Barrett Russell Kindergarten Center – Brockton, MA
Huntington School – Brockton, MA
Stefanik School – Chicopee, MA
Holyoke Community Charter School – Holyoke, MA
Hennessey School – Lawrence, MA
Lawlor School Early Childhood Center – Lawrence, MA
Lawrence Family Academy – Lawrence, MA
Oliver Partnership School – Lawrence, MA
UP Academy Leonard – Lawrence, MA
Ferryway School – Malden, MA
Ellen R. Hathaway Elementary School – New Bedford, MA
Horatio A. Kempton Elementary School – New Bedford
Jireh Swift Elementary – New Bedford
John A. Parker Elementary School – New Bedford
Carlos Pacheco Elementary – New Bedford
John Hannigan Elementary School – New Bedford
Bates Elementary – Salem, MA
Bentley Elementary School – Salem, MA
Carlton Innovation School – Salem, MA
Horace Mann Laboratory School – Salem, MA
Balliet Middle School – Springfield, MA
Brightwood Elementary School – Springfield, MA
Daniel Brunton Elementary School – Springfield, MA
Elias Brookings Elementary School – Springfield, MA
German Gerena Community School – Springfield, MA
Liberty School – Springfield, MA
Lincoln School – Springfield, MA
Mary M Walsh School – Springfield, MA
Milton Bradley School – Springfield, MA
Samuel Bowles Elementary School – Springfield, MA
Springfield Public Day Elementary – Springfield, MA
School Springfield Public Day Middle School – Springfield, MA
Thomas M. Balliet Elementary School – Springfield, MA
White Street School – Springfield, MA
William N. DeBerry Elementary School – Springfield, MA
Willie Ross School for the Deaf – Springfield, MA
Elizabeth Pole Elementary School – Taunton, MA
Galligan Elementary School – Taunton, MA
Mulcahey Elementary School – Taunton, MA
Park Avenue Elementary School – Webster, MA
Belmont Street School – Worcester, MA
Burncoat Street Prep – Worcester, MA



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Canterbury Street School – Worcester, MA
Chandler Magnet School – Worcester, MA
Elm Park Elementary School – Worcester, MA
Goddard School of Science and Technology – Worcester, MA
Grafton Street School – Worcester, MA
Jacob Hiatt Magnet School – Worcester, MA
Lincoln Street School – Worcester, MA
McGrath Elementary School – Worcester, MA
Vernon Hill School – Worcester, MA
Woodland Academy – Worcester, MA

Schools in our country are on the front lines of fighting childhood hunger. Teachers and school nurses see the yawns and glazed eyes, and hear about the belly pains and headaches that result from an empty stomach. They witness the morning disturbances in class from children who cannot focus, and they stock their drawers with snacks that help students make it through to lunch, often allowing students to come back at the end of the day to take food home for themselves or their siblings.

Through the Healthy Start Awards program, the Foundation aims to celebrate the great work that is being done across our state to implement universal free, breakfast in the classroom initiatives while calling attention to the need and benefits for expanding this important program across the Commonwealth.