

# Kids Eat Up Universal School Meals!

## Based on interviews with Universal School Meals schools, this is what we know:

- Vermont schools report that their meal program finances have improved using Universal Meals.
- Statewide, student participation has increased an average of 10% in schools providing universal meals — some schools have increased participation by more than 40%!
- Principals report improved test scores, along with declines in school nurse visits, behavioral referrals, and absenteeism.
- 100% of school principals and food service managers said that trying to collect unpaid meal debt from parents was the “worst part” of their jobs.



## WHAT ARE SCHOOL STAFF AROUND VERMONT SAYING?



“Students know if they have a bill, and they feel bad—you can see it. Universal meals makes for a lot happier environment. It gives kids the opportunity to be kids without the pressure of being financially strapped or stigmatized.”

~Eden Central School

“This program is having a positive financial impact. We are better off than if we hadn’t done it.”

~Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union

“I got a lot of calls of gratitude from parents. It’s an opportunity to give back to the community. It has had an immediate positive impact. Every school that can, should take advantage of it.”

~Brighton Elementary School

“Universal Meals has allowed the school to offer virtually limitless fruits & vegetables of many kinds. All are fresh, and we’ve been able to support more local farms and farmers. It’s amazing!”

~Barre City Elementary & Middle School



# 65 VERMONT SCHOOLS, SERVING OVER 13,500 STUDENTS, CURRENTLY PROVIDE UNIVERSAL MEALS

## **Barre City Supervisory Union**

Barre City Elementary & Middle School

## **Burlington School District**

C.P. Smith Elementary

Essential Early Education Center

Hunt Middle School

Integrated Arts Academy

J.J. Flynn Elementary

ONTOP/Horizon School

Sustainability Academy

## **Caledonia Central Supervisory Union**

Walden School

## **Caledonia North Supervisor Union**

Sutton Village School

## **Essex-Caledonia Supervisory Union**

Concord Graded School

Lunenburg & Gilman Schools

## **Franklin Central Supervisory Union**

St. Albans City Elementary

## **Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union**

Berkshire Elementary

Enosburg Elementary

Richford Elementary

Richford Junior-Senior High School

## **Grand Isle Supervisory Union**

Alburg Community Education Center

Isle La Motte School

## **Lamoille North Supervisory Union**

Eden Central School

Johnson Elementary

## **North Country Supervisory Union**

Brighton Elementary

Charleston Elementary

Coventry Village School

Holland Elementary

Lowell Graded School

Newport City Elementary

Troy School

## **Orange East Supervisory Union**

Waits River Valley Union School

## **Orleans Central Supervisory Union**

Albany Community School

Barton Graded School

Brownington Central School

Irasburg Village School

Orleans Elementary

## **Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union**

Lakeview Union School

Wolcott Elementary

## **Rutland City School District**

Northeast Primary School

Northwest Elementary School

Rutland Intermediate School

Rutland Middle School

## **Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union**

Bennington Elementary

Early Education Program

Molly Stark School

Monument Elementary

Mt. Anthony Middle School

Mt. Anthony Union High School

On Point Elementary

Pownal Elementary

Shaftsbury Elementary

Woodford Hollow School

## **Washington Northeast Supervisory Union**

Twinfield Union School (P2)

## **Windham Southeast Supervisory Union**

Academy School

Green Street School

Oak Grove School

## **Windham Southwest Supervisory Union**

Readsboro Elementary

## **Winooski School District**

The Family Center

John F. Kennedy School

Winooski Middle School

Winooski High School

## **Independent/Private Schools & Education Programs**

Choice Academy (Barre, VT)

Kindle Farm School (Newfane, VT)

Laraway School (Johnson, VT)

Lyndon Institute (Lyndon Center, VT) (not in NSLP)

Sacred Heart School (Bennington, VT)

Sheldon Academy-Vermont Achievement Center

