



***For Immediate Release***

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## **CCSD Food Service receives Champions of Breakfast recognition by USDA**

*The number of students participating in the second chance breakfast program has increased by more than 20 percent.*

**LAS VEGAS** – The Clark County School District (CCSD) Food Service Department received the Western Region's 2017 Champions of Breakfast Award for the category of Implementation of an Innovative School Breakfast Program Model.

On Thursday, March 9, at 8 a.m. officials from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will observe the award-winning breakfast model in action at Valley High School, located at 2839 Burnham Avenue. The Champions of Breakfast banner will also be presented.

CCSD Food Service began serving Second Chance Breakfast at the start of the 2015-16 school year. This model is currently used by 13 different secondary schools where all students can receive a free grab-and-go breakfast at serving stations located throughout their schools. Students can consume their meal during the second chance nutrition break and/or during the following class period. This model has been embraced by the schools' administrators as well as teachers. Through anecdotal evidence, students are more alert and engaged during class because they have eaten breakfast.

"Starting each day off with a healthy breakfast gives kids the energy and nutrition they need to learn throughout the school day," said Western Regional Administrator of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service Jesus Mendoza Jr. "Kids' ability to achieve in the classroom depends on their access to healthy meals each morning."

CCSD is able to sustain this program through the increase in participation by more than 20 percent in the last two years. The number of meals served in comparison to this same time last year has increased by 117 percent, resulting in an additional 144,524 breakfast meals served.

"We are happy to see a great number of students are taking advantage of our second chance breakfast program," said CCSD Food Service Director David Wines. "CCSD Food Service is committed to providing students with tasty and nutritious meals every day and it is a great honor to be recognized by the USDA for these efforts."

The Champions of Breakfast Awards recognize schools in districts that operate exemplary School Breakfast Programs.

For more information about CCSD's Food Service Department, visit [ccsd.net/foodservice](http://ccsd.net/foodservice)

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