# PROMISING STRATEGIES TO INCREASE STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL MEALS



- Maintain or strengthen the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act
- Expand access to Healthy School Meals for All (HSM4A)



Restrictions on competitive foods

 Limit snacks and beverages sold à la carte in the cafeteria, in vending machines, and school stores



#### Alternative breakfast models

• Provide breakfast in the classroom, breakfast after the bell, or grab-and-go options

# STRATEGIES LINKED TO MEAL PARTICIPATION WARRANTING ADDITIONAL RESEARCH



### Improve palatability of school meals

by offering culturally appropriate menus and taste tests



#### Promote school meals

through nutrition education and marketing school lunch participation



### Make school meals more convenient

with longer lunch periods and changes to the cafeteria environment



#### **Implement other policies** such as local wellness policies and state or local policies that address "meal shaming"



#### Increase enrollment in free & reduced-price meals

by promoting free & reduced-price meal applications and improving direct certification system

# ACTIONS SCHOOLS AND POLICYMAKERS CAN TAKE TO IMPROVE SCHOOL MEAL PARTICIPATION



Offer alternative breakfast models



Restrict sales of snack foods



Maintain / strengthen nutrition standards

## **RESOURCES FOR ALTERNATIVE BREAKFAST MODELS**

FRAC: Making Breakfast Part of the School Day

No Kid Hungry: Implement Breakfast After the Bell

This infographic is based upon the Healthy Eating Research brief Promising Strategies to Increase Student Participation in School Meals.

