



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK  
March 8–12, 2004

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By the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America

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A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS** the School Breakfast Program serves local communities across America by making healthful, nutritious meals available to an average of 7.4 million children at the start of each schoolday; and

**WHEREAS** teachers and school administrators know that children who have access to good nutrition at the beginning of the schoolday are more attentive and better able to learn; and

**WHEREAS** by meeting this need, the School Breakfast Program contributes to this Administration's goal of ensuring that no child is left behind in achieving his or her full potential; and

**WHEREAS** it is recognized that the overall health of our Nation's youth has become of increasing concern and that children must have access to the most healthful, nutritious meals possible; and

**WHEREAS** the efforts of foodservice professionals, school administrators, and community leaders throughout our Nation are critical to the success of the School Breakfast Program;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in appreciation of all the dedicated, hardworking people who make the School Breakfast Program a reality in their community schools, I, Ann M. Veneman, Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, do hereby join with the American School Food Service Association to proclaim the school week of March 8–12, 2004, as National School Breakfast Week. I call upon public and private schools and faith-based and community organizations to recognize the important efforts made by foodservice professionals, school administrators, and community leaders to promote children's health and to provide children with an improved environment for learning.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of March 2004, the two-hundred twenty-eighth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ann M. Veneman".

ANN M. VENEMAN  
Secretary