

## Tackling Hunger At Fairview Elementary



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Fairview Elementary, a small, rural, Title 1 school steeped in intergenerational poverty, is taking a stand to tackle an often overlooked barrier to optimal learning outcomes: hunger.

Everyone can relate to the distracting discomfort of hunger, a feeling that makes concentrating a challenging feat. Yet, for many students at Fairview Elementary, this experience is a daily reality. It hinders their ability to focus in class. Many students do not have access to food with basic vitamins and minerals essential for their growth and development.

The school, therefore, has set an ambitious goal for this academic year: the provision of healthy snacks in classrooms to ensure that no student's learning is compromised due to hunger. The solution is as simple as it is effective; when a student feels hungry, they simply inform the teacher and then select a snack from a bin full of nutritious options, all while continuing their classroom activities.

This initiative has been made possible through the generosity of external donors, who have provided the means for each classroom to be stocked with a variety of healthy snacks. The snacks not only alleviate immediate feelings of hunger but also enable students to devote their full attention to their schoolwork rather than their empty stomachs.

By prioritizing students' basic needs, Fairview Elementary is leading the way, demonstrating how schools can make a profound difference in students' lives beyond traditional academic boundaries. By ensuring that our students are well-nourished, we are paving the way for a brighter, healthier, and more successful future for every child.

