Lactose Free School Milk Adds Milk Options for Students

Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) served shelf-stable white and chocolate lactose free milk alongside gabletop white and chocolate milk at breakfast and lunch, as part of the USDA School Meal Program, during Q4 2023. The results are positive, with more students choosing milk with their meals.

CPS is a large school district with nearly 35,000 students in 65 school buildings. 71% of their students are African American or Hispanic/Latino. The Q4 pilot included six elementary schools and four high schools, and has been expanded to include all CPS high schools through June 2024.

When students have the option to choose shelf-stable chocolate lactose free milk, meal participation and milk selection increased overall.

More students ate school meals and took milk with their meal when lactose free milk was offered.

non-pilot schools

Total Milk

Total School Meals

non-pilot schools pilot schools

pilot schools pilot schools

+21%

pilot schools

+15%

Nearly 1 in 5 milks chosen by high school students were chocolate lactose free.

Lactose free chocolate milk accounted for 18.7% of total milk in pilot high schools - double the usage in the pilot elementary schools (9.7%).

11%

of students report drinking lactose free milk at home.

Offering lactose free milk at school fulfills a need for those students.

Nearly half the students surveyed say they drink more milk now that chocolate lactose free is available.

artners









Data analysis provided by Prime Consulting®

Make lactose free milk a part of your school meals!

For more information, contact:

