

## **AFL is Celebrating the Continued Expansion of Student Nutrition Programs**

During the 2024-2025 schools, seven new programs opened in TCDSB schools, thanks to the renewed commitment from the City of Toronto, giving an additional 2,389 children access to nutritious morning meals/snacks.

The high cost of groceries combined with the shift to part-time employment in many sectors has taken its toll on many students and families within the TCDSB. For many children, the snack or meal they are able to enjoy at school is often the only nutritious food they receive during the day.

We all know how important good nutrition is to the development of children and to their ultimate success in school, and it is this recognition by the local government which is the impetus behind the expansion of school food programs across the City of Toronto.

Our thanks goes out to the school administrators, the volunteer nutrition program coordinators and our own SNP team for working together with enthusiasm and creativity to launch these SNPs at Josyf Cardinal Slipyj, Nativity of Our Lord, St Malachy, St Mary of the Angels, St Victor, The Divine Infant and Venerable John Merlini.

Through a generous donation from ShareLife (Archdiocese of Toronto) six additional schools were able to pilot morning snack programs last year.

The continued commitment to ensuring that all students have access to healthy snacks daily, has resulted in additional funding from the City of Toronto which has enabled AFL to launch SNPs at 13 more TCDSB schools starting in the fall of 2025. The additional programs will operate at Mother Cabrini, O L of Peace, St Clement, St. Margherita of Citta Di Castillo, St Elizabeth, St. Pius X, St Antoine Daniel, St Norbert, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, St Anselm, St Gerald, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Transfiguration of Our Lord.

AFL is truly grateful for the additional funding which gets us yet another step closer to ensuring that no child will go hungry during the school day.