

More than teaching

Ohio public schools accept all students, and have numerous programs to help those children deal with everything from poverty and homelessness to English as a second language (ESL) and learning disabilities.



Public schools serve more than 1.8 million students in Ohio (49 million students in the US).

Ohio has the sixth-largest public school system in the country.

They employ more than 245,000 Ohioans full time.

In many areas, the public school system is the largest employer.

More than 17,000 buses transport 900,000 Ohio schoolchildren daily.

Ohio public school districts typically must bus students who live within their boundaries, even if they attend private or charter schools.



Ohio public schools cultivate nonacademic skills through extracurricular activities. Forty-two percent of public high school seniors participate in a school-sponsored sport.

Public Schools Make a Difference



Beyond academics

Students can't succeed in the classroom if they are hungry in class. Ohio public schools offer free and reduced-price breakfasts, lunches and after-school snacks to help children focus on learning.

Unfortunately, hunger doesn't take a vacation when school lets out. Many Ohio school districts arrange for food to be provided to students for the weekend to ensure they are properly fed. Summer food service programs provide free, nutritious meals and snacks to help children get the nutrition they need to learn, play and grow while on summer breaks.



Ohio public schools feed more than one out of every 10 students through the free-and-reduced-lunch programs.

The number of recipients has increased nearly 50% over the past five years – a record high.

Food service programs serve more than one million school lunches daily at more than 4,000 locations.

The National School Lunch Program fed 31 million children each school day in 2009.

The Summer Food Service Program provided more than 3.9 million meals in fiscal year 2010 to low-income children in cooperation with the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program.

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