



**PUBLIC BENEFITS**

**THROUGH SCHOOLS**

**CONVENING**

**APRIL 9-10, 2024**





# Schools as a Vehicle for Addressing Food Insecurity

PUBLIC BENEFITS THROUGH SCHOOLS CONVENING 2024



# SPEAKERS



**Tenisha Swift**

Associate Executive Director of  
Operations, After-School All Stars



**Melanie Acosta**

Community School Director, PS 48X  
Joseph R. Drake NYC DOE



**Joseph DiCrescento**

Principal, PS 48X Joseph R. Drake  
NYC DOE

# SPEAKERS



**Michele Bridgewater**

District Improvement Director and  
President of the Administrators  
Association, City School District of Albany



**Dena Donaldson**

Assistant Director, AFT Educational  
Issues, American Federation of  
Teachers, AFL-CIO



**Tukiiya Stephens**

Principal Madison Shannon Palmer  
High School

## **SESSION'S DESCRIPTION:**

This panel discussion will explore how challenges around food insecurity impact student learning, attendance, and parent engagement. Areas of progress and regress will also be discussed from both an urban and rural landscape as well as local and regional perspectives. Partnerships are a critical component to this work. To that end, the panelists will highlight local and statewide partners that understand community need and work with and within schools to systemize and formalize approaches, interventions, and results.





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HUNGRY**

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, AFL-CIO

- ★ Founded in 1916 and today represents 1.72 million members in more than 3,000 local affiliates nationwide
- ★ AFT has five divisions representing the broad spectrum of the AFT's membership:
  - Pre-K through 12th-grade teachers
  - Paraprofessionals and other school-related personnel
  - Higher education faculty and professional staff
  - Federal, state and local government employees
  - Nurses and other healthcare professionals

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, AFL-CIO

- ★ AFT represents approximately 80,000 early childhood educators and nearly 250,000 retiree members
- ★ AFT's Community Schools Network connects school and community stakeholders in more than 25 states to network and share resources with other community school leaders and practitioners
- ★ AFT has also invested in the growth of community schools through their Innovation Fund, which has provided seed grants to AFT affiliates working with school district and local partners to implement the community schools' strategy



# CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ALBANY

- ★ Public school district serving the city's residents operating multiple elementary, middle, and high schools
  - Provides education for students Pre-K through 12
- ★ Demographics
  - Serves more than 9,049 Students
  - 1042 Asian; 2052 Hispanic; 3716 Black; 677 Mixed Race/Ethnicity; 2533 White; 30 Indian; 24 Pacific Islander; 1385 Special Education; 1449 English Language Learners; 5281 Economically Disadvantaged



# CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ALBANY

## ★ **District Improvement Director (Elementary Division)**

- Provide ongoing support to elementary schools within the district that have been identified as low performing by the NY State Education department
- Collaborates with the State Education's Office technical assistance teams to provide technical assistance for school improvement
- Analyzes data related to student achievement, attendance, and behavior to inform decision-making and measure progress toward improvement goals.
- Oversees the implementation of the community school strategy for 8 schools (5 elementary, 2 middle and 1 alternative program)
- Provides supervision, professional development, and support to staff members responsible for leading the community school strategy



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# QUITMAN COUNTY MISSISSIPPI DEMOGRAPHICS

- ★ Population as of 2021 - approx. 6,300
- ★ Average Household income - \$26,000
- ★ Percent determined to be living in poverty - 35%

## QUITMAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

- ★ Madison S. Palmer High School
  - Enrollment - 224 students
  - Staff - 34
  - # receiving free/reduced lunch - 100%





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TO OPEN 482505 SELL BY  
Chocolate Fat Free Milk  
**TruMoo**  
Our Farmers Pledge  
**NO Artificial Growth Hormones\***  
\*No significant difference has been shown in milk from cows treated with the artificial growth hormone rBST and non-rBST treated cows.

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# PS48 JOSEPH R. DRAKE

**Lead Community Based Organization: United Community Schools**

- ★ Demographics:
  - School Population: 480
  - Poverty rate: 36.6%
  - Med Household Income: \$32,010
    - Spending more than 50% of income on rent
    - Unemployment rate: 18%
  - STH families: 105 families
    - Approx. 25% of the student population living in temporary housing, doubled up, or foster care





# PS48 JOSEPH R. DRAKE

## Lead Community Based Organization: United Community Schools

### ★ Statistics + Partners:

- Hunts Point Alliance for Children (HPAC) conducts a mood meter 3x per week with 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 117 students in total
- Brighter Bites provides SNAP education to all grades, 480 students in total
- SY2023-2024
  - Held 2 pantries through NYCP serving 99 families and 21 community members
- SY2022-2023
  - Held 4 pantries through NKH funding
  - Held 7 through New York Common Pantry(NYCP) serving 195 families and 126 community members





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