



Welcome to Our Webinar on STUDENT VOICES

- Thank you for joining us!
- As we wait to get started, please add your name and state/program in the chat and add an emoji to describe your mood 😊!
- Visit our website to find more resources & webinars
<https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/>



Student Voices on the Menu: Leading the Conversation on School Meals

Speakers featured:

- Student speaker **Gabriel**, TX and Mel Jackson, Josh Howard Foundation
- **Gavin Lee** from Fort Wayne Community Schools, IN
- **Ezekiel** from Sabinal ISD, TX
- **Jada Curd**, Burke County, GA. Sophomore at Vanderbilt University, Public Speaker
- Moderator: Jeannine Rios, No Kid Hungry

October 24, 2024 EDT 4pm



Housekeeping

- This webinar is being recorded
- Recording and slides
 - Will be sent to you in a follow up email
 - Located at the center for Best practices
<https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars>
- Please put questions in the Q&A box
- Please fill out survey you will receive after the webinar. Feedback helps us.

Resources

[Student Feedback Toolkit](#)

[What's New Newsletter](#)

[Breakfast Bites](#)



Student Feedback Toolkit

Tools for Conducting Surveys and Listening Sessions for School Meals with High School-Aged Students

[View in your browser](#)



WHAT'S NEW

from the Center for Best Practices



WHAT'S NEW

New! Understanding the Implications of the 25% ISP Threshold for Participation in CEP

Effective October 26, 2023, the identified student percentage (ISP) threshold for participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) will decrease from 40 percent to 25 percent. Prior to October 26, CEP provided schools and districts with at least 40 percent ISP (i.e., the percentage of students directly certified or categorically eligible for free or reduced-price (FRP) school meals) with the option to provide no-cost school meals to all students as well as forgo the collection of FRP applications. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has reduced the ISP threshold for participation in CEP from 40 percent to 25 percent, which will make about 3,000 schools eligible for participation in CEP.

[This resource](#) describes considerations and actions for schools and districts as they learn about and implement USDA's new CEP rule.



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

SEPTEMBER 2024

welcome back!



From L to R: Karlo Laveo (youth leader), Anus Bhatta (youth leader), and Alma Leonor-Sanchez (project manager).

Picture taken in 2022 by [Equitable Community Farms](#)

Welcome back to our Breakfast Bites newsletter, where you will find information and resources to support strong and sustainable school breakfast programs!

Resources

- [Youth Engagement Report](#)

Knowing they like the food is the biggest motivator

Here is a list of factors that might make you more likely to want to get meals from a community organization when school is not in session, during breaks in the school year. Please indicate if this would make you much more likely to get school meals, somewhat more likely to do so, or if it would make no difference to you.



In May 2022, with the support and expertise of FM3 Research, we found out what middle and high school students think about school and community meals by interviewing 1,000 teens across the U.S.

Gabriel's video





Student Voices on the Menu: Leading the Conversation on School Meals

Gavin Lee

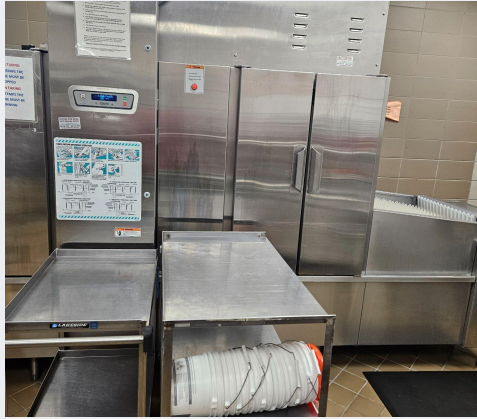
Meet Gavin Lee





The Journey!!





My Current Situation!!

My Dreams!!





THANK YOU!



Ezekiel Llanes

Sabinal ISD

Ezekiel Llanes: About me

- ▶ Senior Class of 2025
- ▶ Student Council
- ▶ National Honor Society
- ▶ Sabinal ISD Drumline & Field Captain
- ▶ Son, Lil brother and Uncle

About me.....



About me.....



CHALLENGES WE HAVE CONQUERED

- ▶ **Increased Meal Variety Since COVID:** Schools have expanded meal options to include diverse choices, accommodating dietary needs and preferences.
- ▶ **Improved Meal Quality:** Efforts have been made to enhance the quality of meals with fresher ingredients and healthier options.
- ▶ **Student Government Involvement:** Student representatives now have a voice in meal planning and feedback processes, promoting meals that better meet student needs and tastes.
- ▶ **Introduction of Newer Equipment:** Upgraded equipment, such as serving tables, has been added to improve meal service efficiency.
- ▶ **Proper Lunches for Extracurriculars:** The cafeteria provides proper lunches with to-go meals for out of school activities that the kids enjoy.
- ▶ **Community Feeding During Summer:** The school cafeteria extends its services to the wider community during the summer, providing meals to those in need.
- ▶ **Introduction of New Dishes:** New meal options, such as beef stir fry, are being introduced to diversify the menu and offer fresh experiences.
- ▶ **Free Meals for All Students:** All food served is free for students, and there is no longer a need to scan lunch cards, making meal access easier and more inclusive.
- ▶ **Staggered Lunch Times at Sabinal Secondary Campus:** Lunch times are now staggered between junior high and high school to manage crowd flow.



CHANGES I WOULD LIKE TO SEE

- ▶ **Return to Reusable Trays:** Transitioning back to reusable trays to enhance sustainability.
- ▶ **Reintroducing Ice Cream for Purchase:** Bringing back the option for students to buy ice cream, offering a treat that many students miss.
- ▶ **Integrate the Culinary Program:** Involving the culinary program in cafeteria operations could offer a hands-on experience for students.
- ▶ **Staffing:** The cafeteria seems to be short staffed; it would be beneficial if the district was able to have the funding to hire more help.

THANK YOU



Jada Curd
Vanderbilt University Student
Public Speaker
Advocate for School Nutrition



Facts About Burke County & My Upbringing

Burke Co. District Profile

District Size: Small Rural County

Number of Schools: 5

Students Served: 4,000

Free & Reduced Percentage: 100%
CEP

Budget: \$5 Million

Meals Served/Year: Almost 150,000







Questions?





THANK YOU

Jeannine Rios

Senior Program Manager

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