



# School Lunch Survey 2024



food fuels learning

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## We are the Food Fuels Learning Interns

School lunch survey found PPS high school students want...

- Halal food
- Tasty Variety
- Cultural foods

**NOW HIRING**

# FOOD FUELS LEARNING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Mondays 3:30-5:30pm  
October 2023-April 2024

**APPLICATIONS DUE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

**INTERNS  
WILL:**

- Learn about school food programs and local food systems
- Develop research skills through conducting peer surveys
- Earn a \$500 stipend



**SCAN HERE**



Questions? Email Zoe at [grodzs@portlandschools.org](mailto:grodzs@portlandschools.org)

# Demographics

172 students responded from Casco Bay High School, Portland High School, and Deering High School

- PHS - 61%
- DHS - 16.3%
- CBHS - 22.7%

- 9th grade - 23.8%
- 10th grade - 37.8%
- 11th grade - 25%
- 12th grade - 13.4%

# Dietary restriction

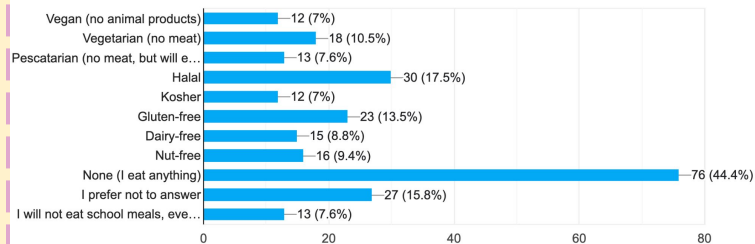
For students in portland public schools that have stated to have a dietary restriction these are the top 3 most common...

- Halal (14.4%)
- Gluten free (12.2%)
- Dairy free (7.2%)



Which of these specific dietary restrictions would you like to see better accommodated? Select all that apply

171 responses

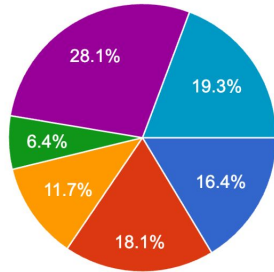


# How often do students eat school lunch?



How often do you eat school lunch?

171 responses



- I've never eaten school lunch
- Less than 5 times per year
- 1-3 times per month
- 1 time per week
- 2-4 times per week
- 5 times per week



In our survey we asked students how often they eat school lunch.

The majority of student eat school lunch 2-4 Times a week and only 16.4% of Students never had eaten the school food.

## Biggest reason why students don't partake in eating school lunch.

The main reason why students are not eating school lunch as shown in this graph is the lack of interest in the options available. With boredom and better food off campus being runner ups.

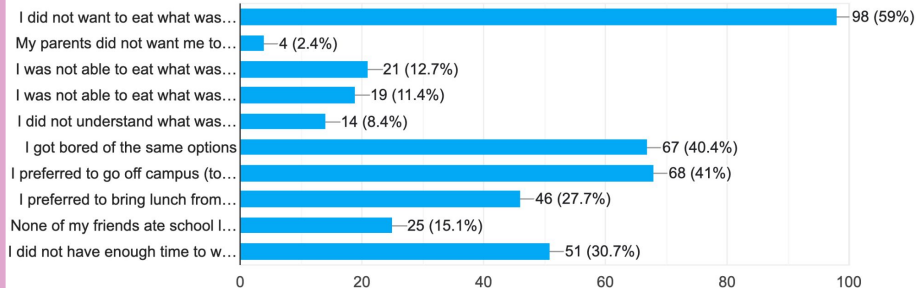


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Which of these are the reasons you have decided not to get school lunch in the past? Select all that apply.

166 responses



# The Cultural or Regional Foods

On the long responses we asked students the cultural or regional foods they would like to see included in the school menu.

The most prevalent answers were:

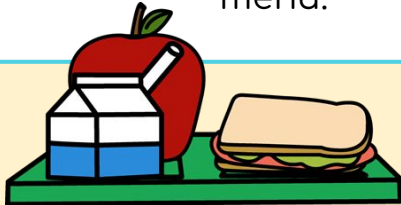
- African
- Angolan
- Rice Dishes



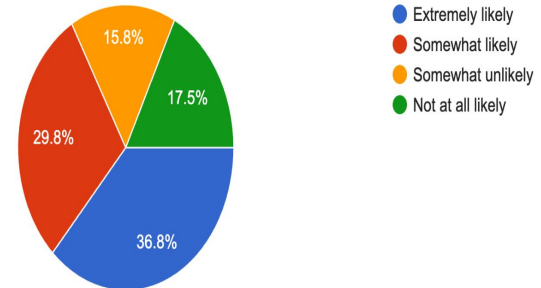
# How likely are students to eat new food on the menu?

We posed students the question, "If we were to serve spiced beef with yellow rice and cabbage slaw, how likely would you be to try it.?"

As shown in the graph 66.6% of the total students who were asked that question confirming that they would indeed give it a try, it can be concluded through our data that the majority of students most likely crave or at the very least are would embrace innovations in the school lunch menu.



If we were to serve spiced beef with yellow rice and cabbage slaw, how likely would you be to try it?  
171 responses



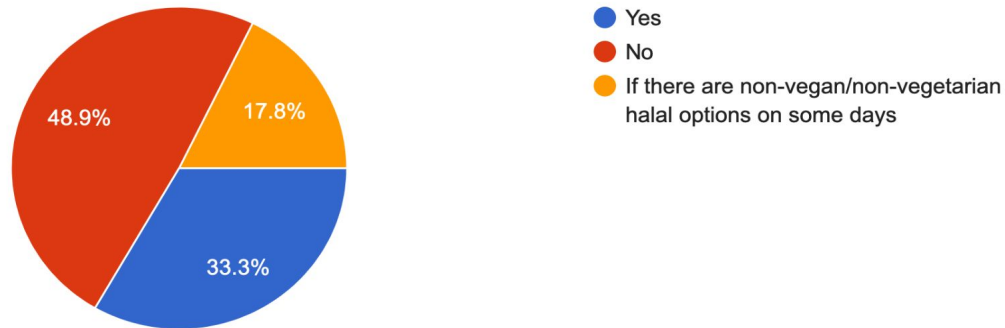


## Are vegan/vegetarian options satisfactory for halal school menu options?

About 43 of the students clicked no as an answer for this question implying that students that have a halal diet want to eat meals that have meat in them

Are vegan/vegetarian options satisfactory for halal school menu options?

45 responses

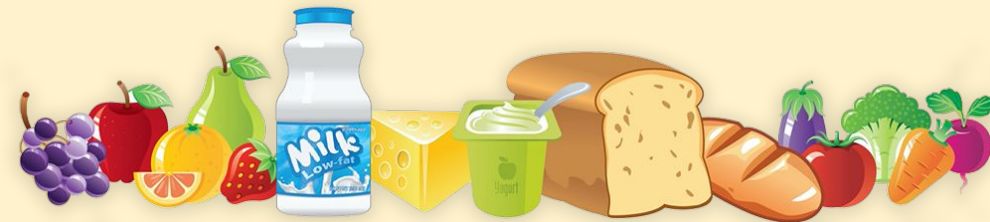
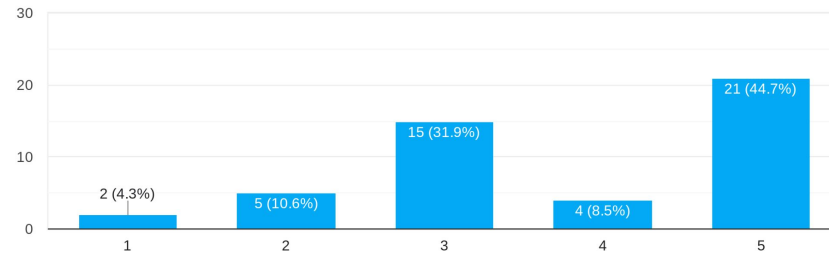


How important is having halal option on the menu for you? 1 being not important, 5 being very important

45.7 % picked 5 which means that having halal option important to them. From this graph you can see that the most votes were 3-5 which shows the participants really want halal foods.

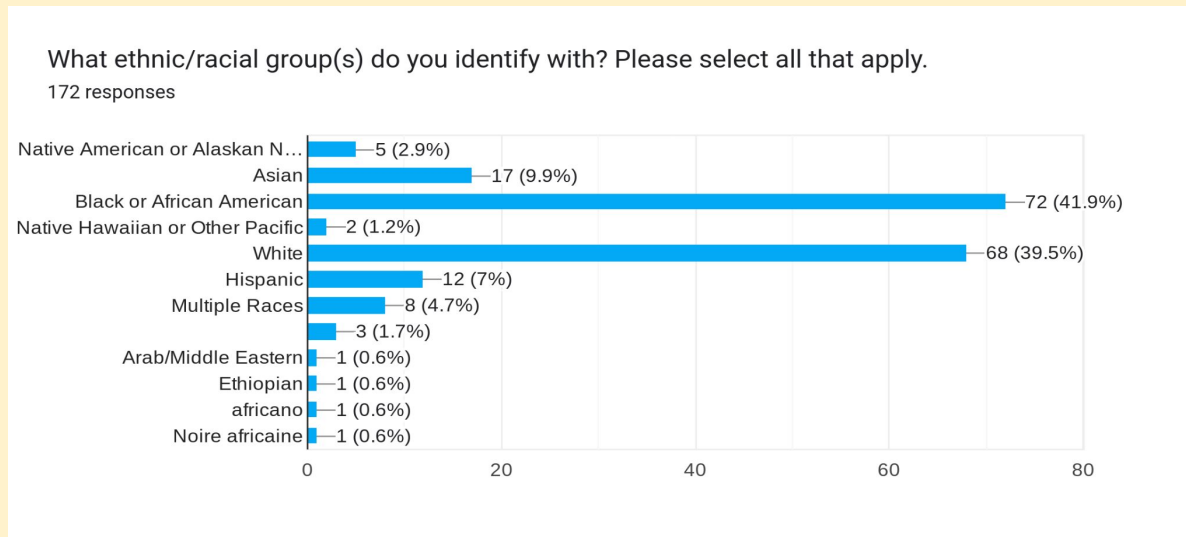


How important is having halal options on the menu for you? 1=not important, 5=very important  
47 responses



## The Ethnic/ racial group(s) that the participants identify with:

In the data shown the amount of bipoc students heavily outweigh non bipoc. A little less than half of them are Black or African American and adding the other people of color it is way more than half of all the participants. I think this is important because it shows how people want their culture included in their day to day life.

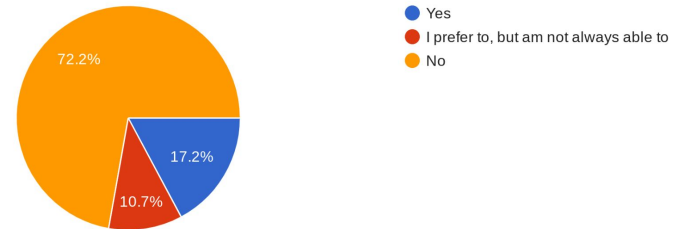


# Do you follow a halal diet?

For this question we asked students if they followed halal diet and nearly 30% of students answered yes

The next section is only for respondents for follow a halal diet. Please confirm: do you follow a halal diet? If not, you will skip to section 3.

169 responses



## In Conclusion!

In conclusion the information we have gathered from the students between the 3 schools evidently shows that people would prefer to follow a halal diet and others would not mind it. Another thing I want to add that shows up multiple times is that people want culturally diverse foods and from adding halal meats the people who do not eat it will not gain anything bad from it and it would help the people at the different schools who follow halal. Thank you for listening and have a good evening.

