

TOPIC

Food pantry for students.

TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Cost of living and food insecurity affect many students at Alexandria City High School. Some students struggle to afford meals, snacks, or food during school events because prices continue to rise. This issue mainly affects students and families with limited income, making it harder for students to focus, participate in activities, and feel comfortable at school. It matters at ACHS because students learn better when their basic needs are met. Providing more free food options or meal support would help create a healthier and more supportive school community.

BASELINE DATA & GOAL

According to the USDA, 13.5% of U.S. households struggled with food insecurity in 2023. This shows that many families and students have trouble affording enough food. At ACHS, some students skip meals or worry about food because of the rising cost of living.

My goal is to help increase free meal and snack options at ACHS and have at least 75% of students say free food programs would help improve student life.

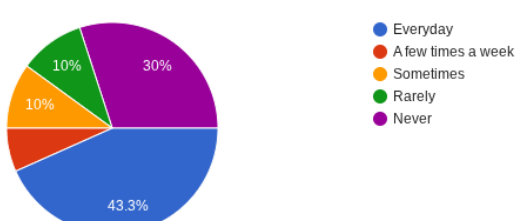
CYCP GOAL & STRATEGIC AREA

This issue connects to the CYCP goal of improving student well-being and basic needs. When students have access to food, they can focus better in class, feel healthier, and participate more in school activities.

WHAT IS HAPPENING RIGHT NOW?

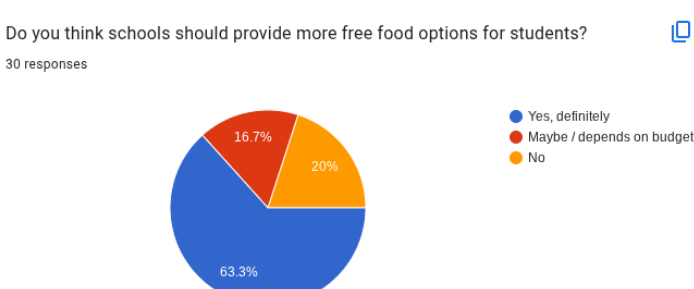
How often do you worry about the cost of food as a student?

30 responses



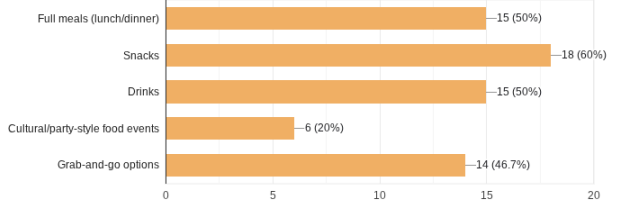
43% are worrying everyday for food and meals during the day.

63% of students voted yes for free meals from school.



What type of free food would you prefer most? (Select all that apply)

30 responses



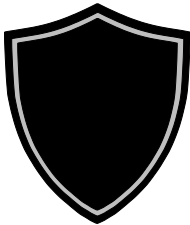
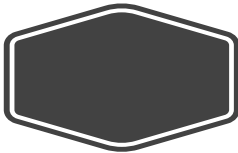
This chart is showing the type of food students prefer based on survey.

WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN TRIED?

ACPS and ACHS already provide free or reduced-price school lunches for students who need support. Some school events also offer free snacks or meals, and local food banks in Alexandria help families struggling with food insecurity. These programs help many students, but my survey shows that students still feel more support is needed because of the rising cost of living.

WHO CAN HELP?

ACPS can help by expanding free meal programs, adding more grab-and-go snack stations, and organizing more free food events for students. The school district can also partner with local organizations to provide more support for students facing food insecurity.



WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR?

Green Building Mandates
Emissions Reduction Initiatives
Economy & Waste

IS IT ACTUALLY HELPING?

Air quality is improving.

WHAT SHOULD CHANGE? (YOUR SOLUTION)

More food availability for students in school building.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

Students focus more during the day.

CITATIONS

TCM
Inflation program

LEARN MORE

We can accept donations from different sources to make free food for people.