

Topic

Adding halal food options.

Halal food is any food or drink permissible for Muslims to consume under Islamic law

Topic Description

Many Muslim students at ACHS do not have enough halal food choices in the school cafeteria. Because of this, some students skip lunch, bring food from home, or eat snacks instead of full meals. This affects students' energy, focus, and participation during the school day. The issue also affects students emotionally because they may feel excluded from school meal options. This matters in Alexandria because ACHS is a diverse school with students from many cultural and religious backgrounds. Providing halal food would help make the school more inclusive and supportive for all students.

BASELINE DATA & GOAL

According to a student survey, 88% of students said there is a need for more halal food options in the cafeteria, and 92% said they have had trouble finding food they can eat at school. This shows the problem is affecting many students.

88%

The goal is to increase halal food availability in the cafeteria so that more students can eat school lunch comfortably. A possible goal is:

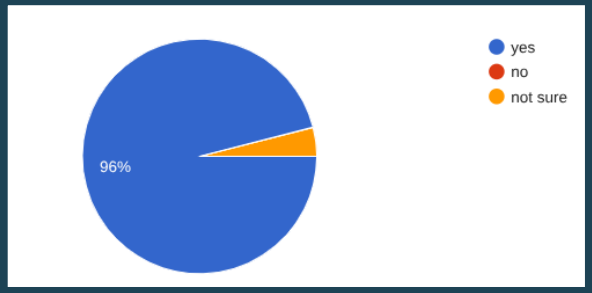
CYCP Goal & Strategic Area

This issue connects to the Children and Youth Community Plan because it supports:

- Student health and wellness
- Academic success
- Inclusion and belonging
- Student engagement

When students have access to food they can eat, they are more likely to stay healthy, focused, and successful in school.

WHAT IS HAPPENING RIGHT NOW?



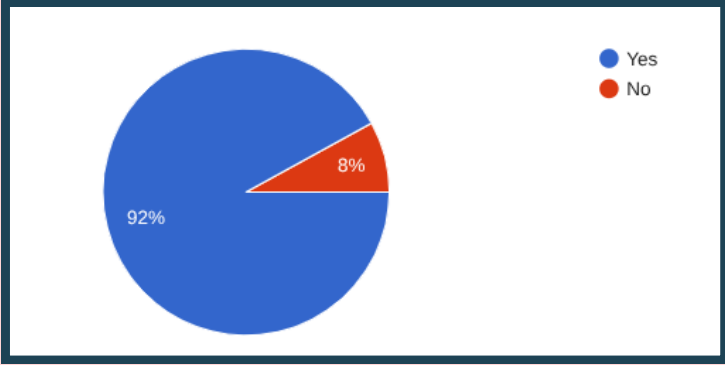
Response	Percentage
yes	96%
no	0%
not sure	4%

Most students believe more halal food options are needed.

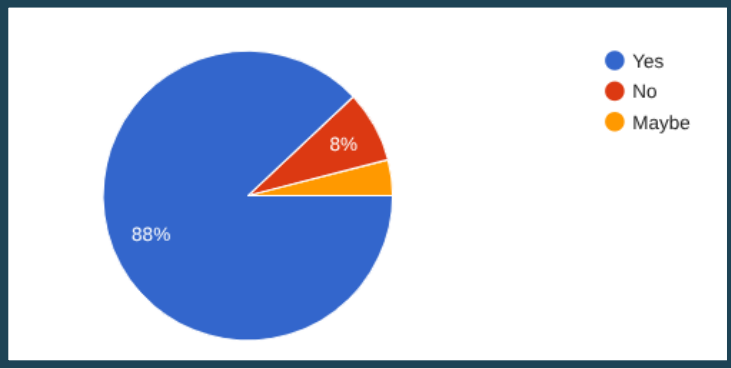
It shows many students support cafeteria changes.

Many students struggle to find suitable meals.

Students may skip meals or not eat enough during school.



Response	Percentage
Yes	92%
No	8%



Response	Percentage
Yes	88%
No	8%
Maybe	4%

More students would participate in school lunch.

It could improve nutrition and cafeteria participation.

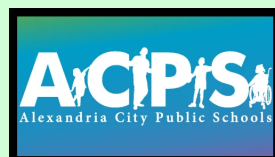
WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN TRIED?

Some students have shared surveys and talked with school staff about adding halal food options. Students have also raised awareness by discussing the issue with classmates and community members. However, there are still limited halal meal choices available in the cafeteria.

WHO CAN HELP?

Alexandria City Public Schools ACPS

Office of School Nutrition Services



WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR?

- **Surveys were shared with students**
- **Students discussed the issue with others**
- **Awareness about halal food needs increased**

These actions helped raise awareness, but there are still few halal options available. More action is needed to create real cafeteria changes.

IS IT ACTUALLY HELPING?

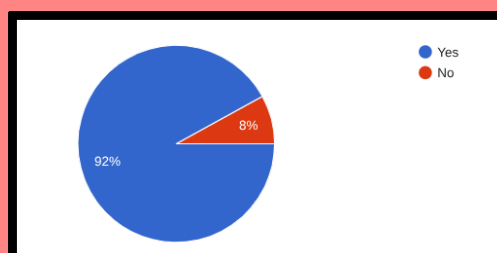
The issue still exists because many students continue to report difficulty finding food they can eat. Survey data shows that students still want more halal choices, meaning current efforts are not fully solving the problem yet.



WHAT SHOULD CHANGE? (YOUR SOLUTION)

ACHS should add clearly labeled halal meal options to the cafeteria menu. The school could work with halal-certified food suppliers and provide at least one halal entrée each day. Cafeteria signs should clearly label halal foods so students know which meals they can eat safely.

Survey data supports this idea because most students said they want more halal options and would eat school lunch more often if halal meals were available.



WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

- More students will eat school lunch
- Students will feel included and respected
- Students may focus better in class
- Muslim students and students with dietary restrictions will benefit most

This change could create a more welcoming environment at ACHS.

CITATIONS

Adding Halal Food Survey
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1waohxpyGWa5TJ3DPD2R_a19OMLSa-A2G2Id406Y2SHE/edit

Titan Change Maker.

ACPS office of Nutrition Services

LEARN MORE

[Alexandria City Public Schools](#)

[City of Alexandria Children & Youth Community Plan](#)