

# DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Section 1: School Demographics

**School Name**

McKinley Technology Education Campus

**Principal's name**

Dr. Louise Jones

**School Address**

151 T St NW  
Washington, District of Columbia 20002  
United States

[Map It](#)

**Number of students (total enrollment)**

830

**Lowest grade**

6

**Highest grade**

12

**This school is:**

- A public school

Please explain:

**Number of students by grade level**

Elementary or lower	Middle grades	High or upper school
210		620

**Number (or percent) of students eligible for free or reduced lunch**

Free lunch	Reduced lunch	Neither free nor reduced lunch
100%		

## **Section 2: Background about school lunch**

**How many students buy lunch in the school's cafeteria?**

More than 90 percent

**How many minutes do students have to eat lunch?**

45

**Are students allowed to eat lunch in rooms/buildings other than the cafeteria?**

No

**Are students allowed to leave campus for lunch?**

No

**Which students are allowed to leave campus for lunch?**

**Are there any times during the school year when breakfast or lunch is free to all students?**

Yes

Please explain:

All students receive free lunch year round

**Who controls the portions and servings students receive?**

Cafeteria staff plate lunch items, students do not choose serving size

Please explain:

**Does the school serve set meals (e.g. chicken nugget with potatoes and carrots) or can students choose what they want from the menu?**

The students can pick which sides they would like, if any

Please explain:

**Are fruits/vegetables required with every meal?**

Yes, fruits/vegetables are included in the price

**In your teams' opinion, are students content with the meal options at school?**

No, somewhat dissatisfied

Please explain:

Many students do not like the school lunch

**What type of utensils do students use to eat?**

Disposable utensils, such as traditional plastic

Please explain:

**What type of plates/trays are used to serve the food?**

Disposable paper plates or trays

Please explain:

### Section 3: Food waste activities at the school

Does the school use any of the following waste reduction activities?

- Food is served in the most efficient way possible to reduce food waste

Please explain:

Has the school performed a food waste audit previously?

No, a waste audit has not been considered

Please explain:

Which of the following generates the majority of food waste at your school?

Student food waste

Please explain:

On average, do you think food waste is an issue at your school?

Neutral

### Section 4: School Waste Data Form

School name

McKinley Technology Education Campus

Date of audit

04/05/2017

Students in attendance on day of audit

664

Numbers of lunches served on day of audit

581

Menu served on day of audit

Pizza, Salad, Potato Fries

Waste type: Unopened food

A: Type of food	B: Number of items	C: Weight of empty bin	D: Total weight	E: Net weight (Total - Empty)
Fruit sides	34	5	15	10
Veggie sides	0	5	5	0
yogurt/dairy	0	5	5	0
chips/crackers	0	5	5	0
milk cartons	38	5	20	15
sandwiches	1	5	2	3

Total net weight of unopened food

28

**Notes regarding unopened food**  
measurements in lbs

**Waste type: Food waste**

<b>A: Bin/Bag Number</b>	<b>B: Weight of empty bin</b>	<b>C: Total weight</b>	<b>D: Net weight (Total - Empty)</b>	<b>E: Picture taken of the bin? (Y/N)</b>	<b>F: Percent full</b>
1	10	25	15	y	60%
2	10	20	10	y	50%
3	10	20	10	y	50%
4	10	30	20	y	65%
5	10	21	11	y	52%
6	10	5	5	y	25%

Total net weight of food waste  
711

**Waste type: Liquid waste**

<b>A: Bin/Bag Number</b>	<b>B: Weight of empty bin</b>	<b>C: Total weight</b>	<b>D: Net weight (Total - Empty)</b>	<b>E: Picture taken of the bin? (Y/N)</b>	<b>F: Percent full</b>
1	2	9.38	7.38	y	15%
2	2	33.40	31.41	y	80%
3	2	24.89	22.89	y	65%

Total net weight of liquid waste  
67.67

**Waste type: Recycling**

<b>A: Bin/Bag Number</b>	<b>B: Weight of empty bin</b>	<b>C: Total weight</b>	<b>D: Net weight (Total - Empty)</b>	<b>E: Picture taken of the bin? (Y/N)</b>	<b>F: Percent full</b>
1	10	24	14	y	50%
2	10	30	20	y	65%
3	10	24.55	14.55	y	52%

Total net weight of recycling  
78.55

**Waste type: Other (Landfill)**

<b>A: Bin/Bag Number</b>	<b>B: Weight of empty bin</b>	<b>C: Total weight</b>	<b>D: Net weight (Total - Empty)</b>	<b>E: Picture taken of the bin? (Y/N)</b>	<b>F: Percent full</b>
1	10	24.1	14.1	y	45%
2	10	30.5	20.5	y	56%

**Total net weight of other wastes (landfill)**

34.61

**Notes regarding food, recycling, and other (landfill) wastes**  
measurements in lbs

**Describe the process you used to establish clear guidelines for students to follow to sort their food waste.**

Pictures were attached to trash bins to signify which bin to deposit which trash in it. As a team, we directed students and explained the process and also assisted when there was an overflow

**Upload photos**

- [IMG\\_0690.JPG](#)
- [IMG\\_0689.JPG](#)
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- [IMG\\_0686.JPG](#)
- [IMG\\_0685.JPG](#)
- [IMG\\_0684.JPG](#)
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**Link to files unable to upload**

**Would your team be interested in being part of the food waste panel at Nationals?**

Yes

## Section 5: Critical Thinking

**Based on your observations during the food waste audit, make three recommendations to your School Board to reduce food waste.**

- 1) Allow portion picking
- 2) Reduce the amount of alternative options
- 3) Have a longer lunch period

**Justify a school's role in teaching children about food waste and the impact food waste has on school budgets, the environment, and hunger in the community.**

Schools can reduce costs by teaching about food waste and how to reduce, which instills these values early on.

**The US Environmental Protection Agency has set a goal to reduce food waste by 50% by the year 2030. Based upon your experience conducting this food waste audit, will the US meet this goal? Explain why or why not.**

I do not they believe they will because an incredible amount of food was wasted with just 600-800 people.

**Detail two or three findings or observations that surprised you. Describe how conducting this food waste audit has impacted you and your team, and the way you think about food in America.**

Students threw away a lot of half eaten food and they also threw away numerous amounts of unopened milk cartons. Our team was very surprised and we wondered why portion sizes haven't been reduced yet. It also highlighted how much food we waste in general.

**What is one obstacle your team faced during the audit and how did you work to resolve it? If the issue went unresolved, what steps would you take to reevaluate your approach?**

The food audit went off without a hitch and the hardest part was the clean up at the end.

## Bonus Question

**Should all schools be required to do food waste audits on a regular basis? Why or why not? Support your answer.**

No, because the food audit might actually cost more money that it saves. At that point, the food audit becomes a liability and it might be more prudent to spend school resources elsewhere.