

NORTH DAKOTA

Section 1: School Demographics

School Name

Louis L'Amour Elementary School

Principal's name

Vikki Coombs

School Address

1102 15th St SW

Jamestown, North Dakota 58401

United States

[Map It](#)

Number of students (total enrollment)

127

Lowest grade

1

Highest grade

5

This school is:

- A public school

Please explain:

Number of students by grade level

Elementary or lower **Middle grades** **High or upper school**

127

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

Free lunch **Reduced lunch** **Neither free nor reduced lunch**

25% (this is free and reduced combined) 75%

Section 2: Background about school lunch

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

71 to 90 percent

How many minutes do students have to eat lunch?

20

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

Yes

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?

No

Please explain:

Who controls the portions and servings students receive?

Cafeteria staff portion items into servings (i.e fruit into cups) but students select items and number of servings themselves)

Please explain:

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

The students receive sides with the entree, whether they want them or not

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?

Yes, somewhat content

Please explain:

about 85% of the students said they loved the school lunch, while the other 15% said its okay.

What type of utensils do students use to eat?

Reusable utensils, such as metal

Please explain:

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

Reusable plates or trays, such as plastic

Please explain:

Section 3: Food waste activities at the school

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

- Menus revised to reduce commonly wasted food items
- Procedures put in place to reduce food over-purchasing
- Procedures put in place to reduce food loss to expiration
- Offer smaller portions for students who may want less food
- Food is served in the most efficient way possible to reduce food waste
- “Offer versus serve” policy in place

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?

No, somewhat unimportant

Section 4: School Waste Data Form

School name

Louis L'Amour Elementary School

Date of audit

04/05/2017

Students in attendance on day of audit

127

Numbers of lunches served on day of audit

110

Menu served on day of audit

Entree options: Sloppy Joe or baked potato with ham and cheese sauce

Side: steamed vegetables

salad bar

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)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Total net weight of unopened food

0

Notes regarding unopened food

there was no unopened food collected

Waste type: Food waste

A: Bin/Bag Number	B: Weight of empty bin	C: Total weight	D: Net weight (Total - Empty)	E: Picture taken of the bin? (Y/N)	F: Percent full
1	N/A	34.2lbs	34.2lbs	Y	less than 50%

Total net weight of food waste

34.2

Waste type: Liquid waste

A: Bin/Bag Number	B: Weight of empty bin	C: Total weight	D: Net weight (Total - Empty)	E: Picture taken of the bin? (Y/N)	F: Percent full
1	1.1lbs	18.7lbs	17.6lbs	Y	about 25%

Total net weight of liquid waste

17.6

Waste type: Recycling

A: Bin/Bag Number	B: Weight of empty bin	C: Total weight	D: Net weight (Total - Empty)	E: Picture taken of the bin? (Y/N)	F: Percent full
1	N/A	5.3lbs	5.3lbs	Y	100%

Total net weight of recycling

5.3

Waste type: Other (Landfill)

A: Bin/Bag Number	B: Weight of empty bin	C: Total weight	D: Net weight (Total - Empty)	E: Picture taken of the bin? (Y/N)	F: Percent full
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Total net weight of other wastes (landfill)

0

Notes regarding food, recycling, and other (landfill) wastes

No landfill/other waste was collected as everything was recyclable

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

We explained to the students what we were going to have them do when they came up to dump their trays, and we encouraged them to do everything themselves but that ended up taking too long for some of the grades so we ended up asking to take their trays and sort everything for them, or leading by example. For the older grades, we walked them through everything ("put your food in here", "please hand Cris your milk carton" etc.)

Upload photos

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(I've never tried sharing a powerpoint from my edutech account before so I'm not sure if you will be able to view this. If you are unable to, please send me an email at courtney_kiecker@yahoo.com so I can't find another way to send in the powerpoint)

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) Give the kids more time to eat! So much of the food thrown away was done so because the students had to leave!
- 2) Do lunch counts- have the kids decide what they are going to eat in the morning before the cook starts preparing the food, so they make enough food for just the people who are going to eat a specific entree.
- 3) Let the students have a greater say in what they want to eat- less things would be thrown away if the kids like the options given to them.

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.

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.

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.

- 1) How many kids threw away uneaten baked potatoes and Sloppy Joe's. There were some kids who didn't even touch their food, they just threw everything away.
- 2) The amount of fresh fruit and vegetable options! The students had a huge variety of fresh options to choose from- grapes, carrot, and radishes were just a few of the options on this particular day.

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 students weren't informed that we would be coming in, so it took them a little by surprise when 6 high schoolers showed up during their lunch and started telling them where to put their lunch garbage. A couple of the kids didn't exactly pay attention to the directions we were giving them, so we had a couple of accidents involving milk dumped in the recycling bin, food in the liquids bucket, and garbage in the food bin. However, after these minor hiccups were taken care of, everything seemed to run fairly smoothly.

Bonus Question

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

We don't think schools should be required to perform food audits on a regular basis-they take a lot of time and effort to manage- but we do think that schools should at the very least try to do one or two audits a year (maybe one at the beginning of the year and one at the end, to show the progress the students make throughout the year).