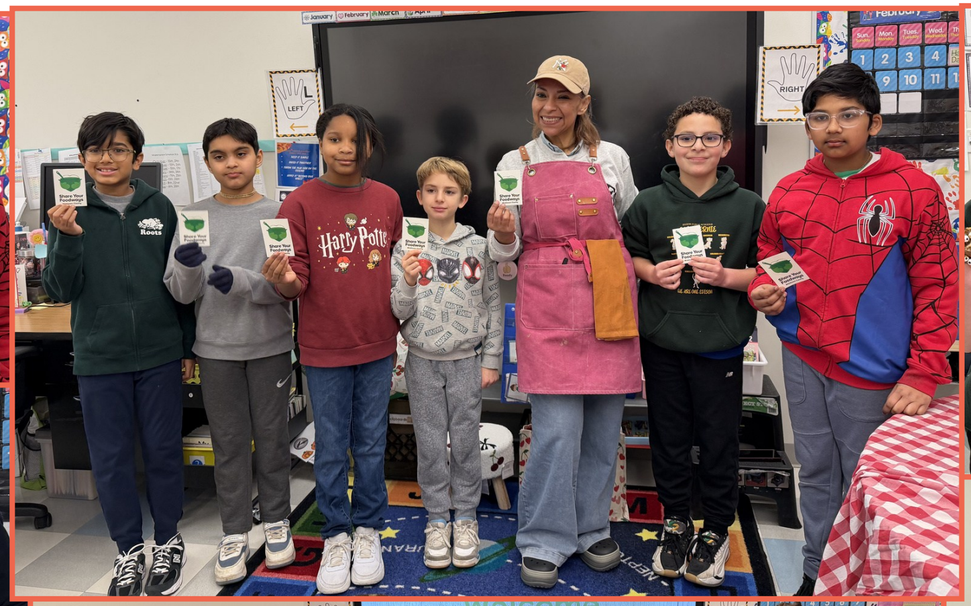
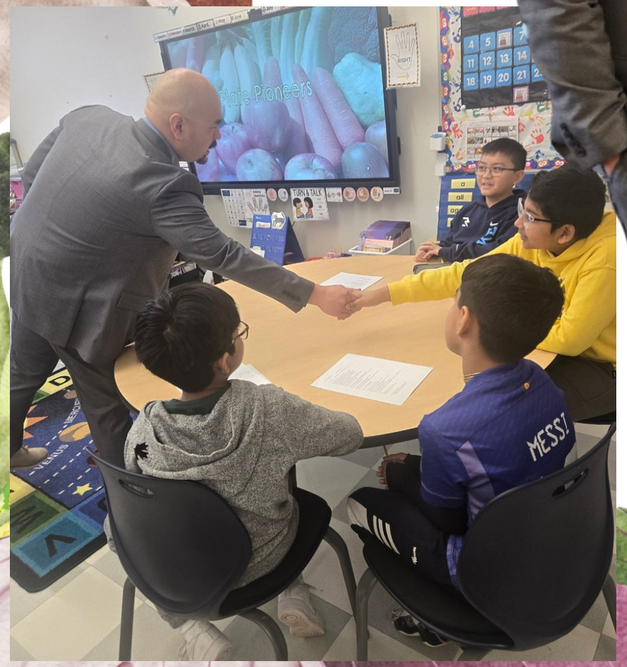
BIG IMPACT: ONE PLATE PIONEER AT A TIME

FOOD TRANSFORMATION WORKSHOPS



MEETING MR. MARK DINGLASAN

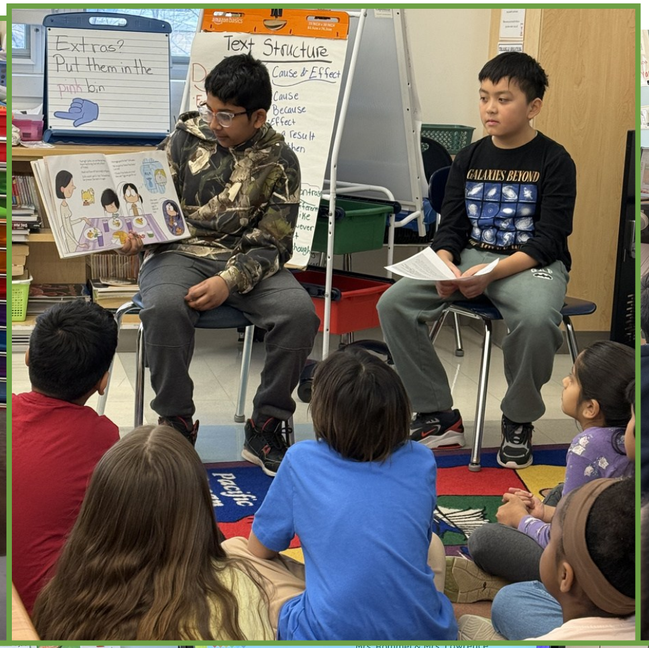
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE FOOD SECURITY ADVOCATE (OFSA)



What does being a Plate Pioneer mean to you?

Feeling like I'm doing a great duty for the world and my community, which I am!

GRADE-LEVEL READ ALOUDS



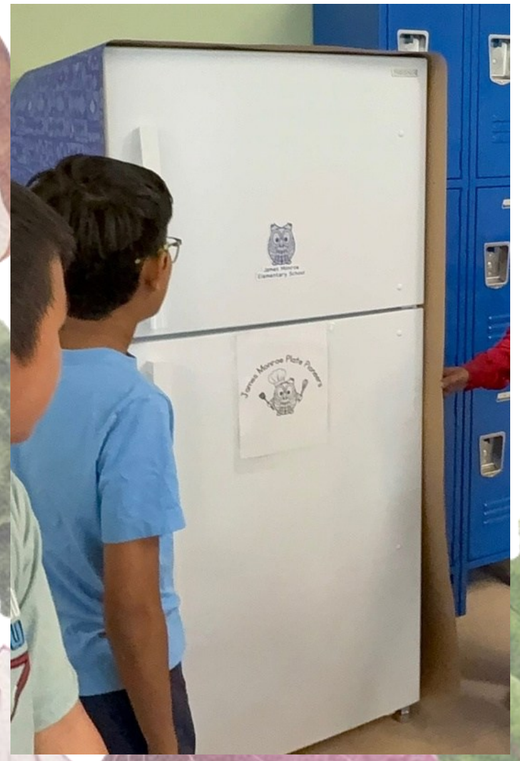
THE SHARE CART PSA

Chef

What does being a Plate Pioneer mean to you?

Feeling accomplished because I'm helping people in need!

FAMILY SNACK BAGS



LEARNING FROM OUR VENDOR

Did you know that we have a Food Advisory Committee at James Monroe? Two students from each grade get to be part of it. They meet with a representative from our food company to make sure we eat foods that are healthy and tasty. This committee is important because it allows the food company to learn about what everyone in our school likes and dislikes to eat. This information will help make our meals more enjoyable! If everyone is enjoying the food, we hope less unopened food will end up in the trash and help reduce food waste.

Chef Lakshith

What does being a Plate Pioneer mean to you?

Helping others. The best thing about being a Plate Pioneer is getting food to people who need it.

COOKING DEMO FAMILY NIGHT

PLATE PIONEERS' YOGURT PARFAIT

James Monroe Plate Pioneers' Yogurt Parfait

INGREDIENTS:

- VANILLA YOGURT
- PEACHES (OR YOUR FAVORITE FRUIT!)
- RAISINS
- CEREAL (HONEY BUNCHES OF OATS)
- GRAHAM CRACKERS
- HONEY

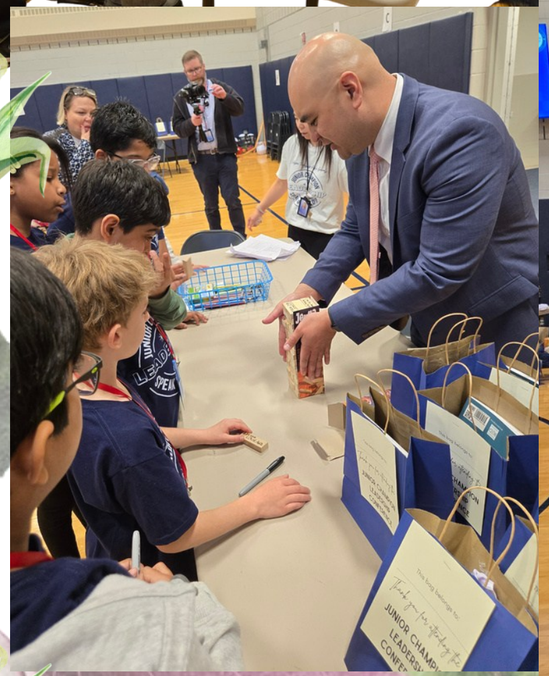
HANDS OF HOPE

MEETING PRESIDENT TOMARO

What does being a Plate Pioneer mean to you?

To help reduce food waste in my school.

JUNIOR CHAMPION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

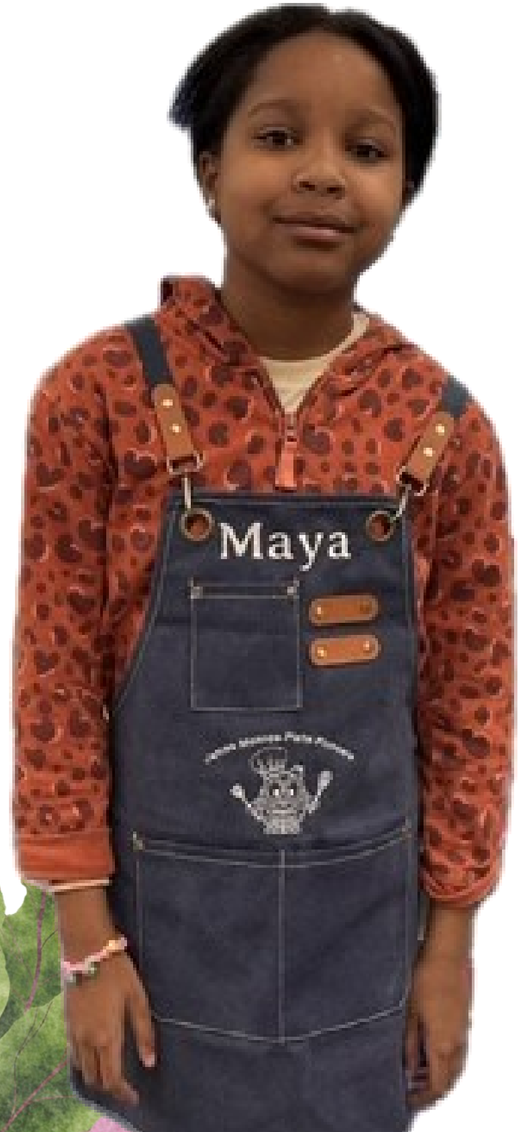


HANDS OF HOPE PANTRY TOUR

Chef Maya

What does being a Plate Pioneer mean to you?

Helping others. The best thing about being a Plate Pioneer is getting food to people who need it.



REPLENISH RECOGNITION

Chef Jameson

What does being a Plate Pioneer mean to you?

Helping put a stop to food waste and collecting extra food for those in need.

NEWS12 FEATURE

NEWS12 FEATURE

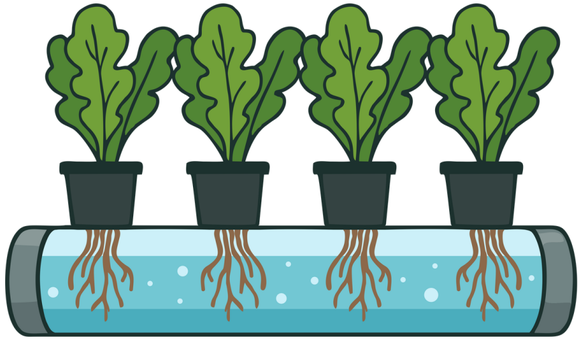
What does being a Plate Pioneer mean to you?

Being a food saver and saving food waste.

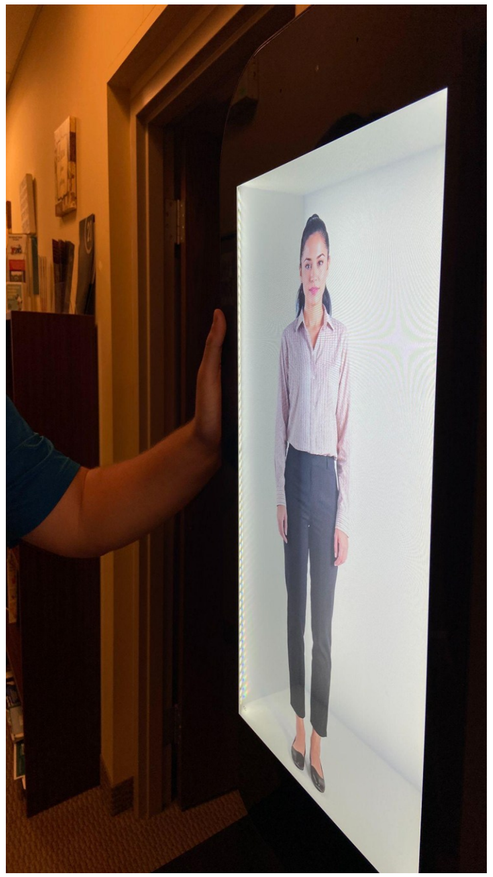
Chef Prahlad

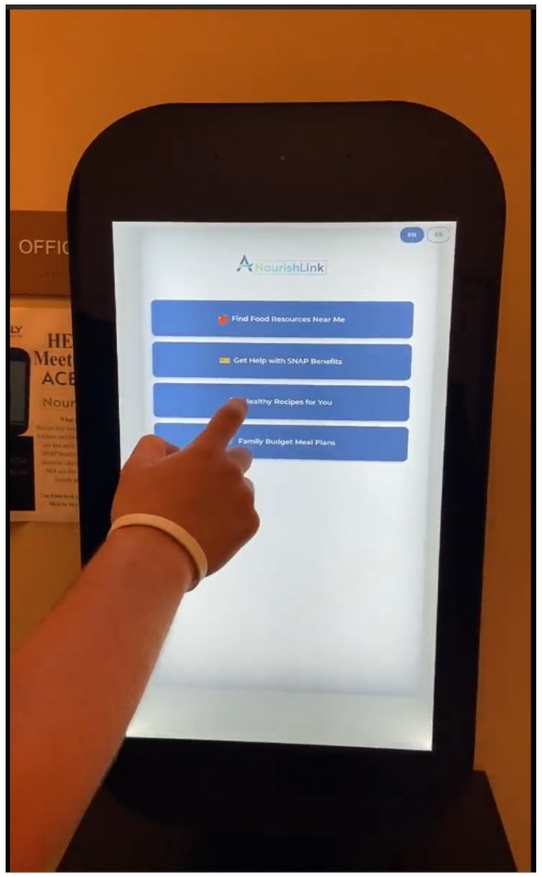
A SNEAK PEEK!

WE WILL BE LAUNCHING A HYDROPONIC SYSTEM!



Digital Kiosks Supporting School Meal Outreach





- Part of a dual engagement approach combining in-person outreach and innovative digital outreach
- Provides information in both English and Spanish to improve accessibility
- Located in high-traffic community settings where residents already seek services
- Features a digital avatar that guides users through simple, easy-to-follow interactions
- Screens residents for potential eligibility under New Jersey's Expanded Income Eligibility guidelines

Building Community Awareness of School Meals

Reaching families where they are is key to increasing awareness of school meal applications and New Jersey's Expanded Income Eligibility.

Through community partnerships, local events, and easy-to-share outreach resources, Hunger Free New Jersey is helping parents understand eligibility, why completing an application matters, and how school meal applications can connect children to free or reduced-price meals and other benefits.

School Meal & Summer EBT Application Toolkit

Provides community partners with ready-to-use resources to raise awareness of School Meal and Summer EBT applications. Available in nine languages, the toolkit includes flyers, social media content, email and text templates, and other materials that can be easily shared with families and community networks.

Community Outreach Toolkit

This toolkit was created in partnership with the NJ Office of the Food Security Advocate. It includes a variety of resources designed to educate parents and caregivers about the value of completing a School Meals and S-EBT application. Please click on the links below to access the materials.

English Toolkit

Spanish Toolkit

Chinese Toolkit

Korean Toolkit

Arabic Toolkit

Portuguese Toolkit

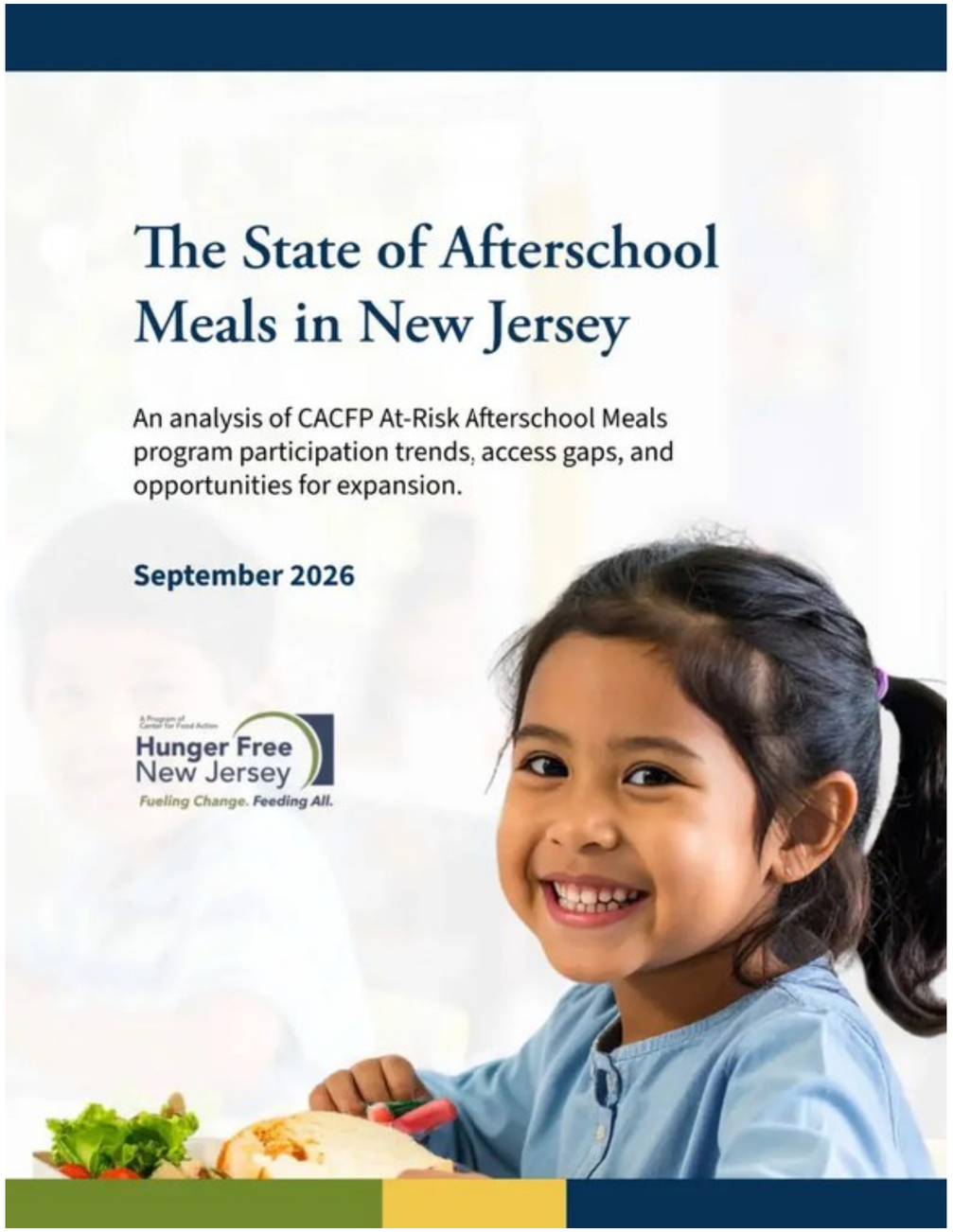
Gujarati Toolkit

Haitian Creole Toolkit

Urdu Toolkit

Expanding Access Through CEP and Afterschool Meals

HFNJ is helping schools and community partners identify opportunities to expand CEP and CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals in high-need communities. Through data analysis, outreach to school leaders, information sessions, and connections to experienced program operators and state resources, we're helping more communities understand, implement, and grow these programs.



Third Annual Garden State Conference on Food Security

Office of the Food Security Advocate