

TEAM NATURE NERDS

# PGC DAY 22

*Food Waste*



Naturenerds

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The background of the top section is a collage of various food waste items, including cardboard boxes, paper plates, and food scraps, all in shades of grey and white, creating a textured, busy appearance.

# **FOOD WASTE ON OUR CAMPUS: JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL**

*our food waste crisis*

## **What does our school currently do with its leftover food?**

Our school currently disposes of its leftover food through the Long Island Waste & Sanitation Program, and composts as well.

## **Does dining services donate any food to the school pantry or local community? (Is there a food pantry on your campus?)**

No, but we do have a club called SOUPerheroes where kids can volunteer to cook for people at a soup kitchen nearby.

# FOOD WASTE ON OUR CAMPUS: JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL

*our food waste crisis*

## Is your school part of the Food Recovery Network?

No, our school is not part of the Food Recovery Network.

## What percentage of students from your school are food insecure?

According to Niche, approximately 6%, or around 66 students at our school are food insecure.

### Diversity



Based on racial and economic diversity and survey responses on school culture and diversity from students and parents.

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Students

1,103

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Free or Reduced Lunch

6%

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# INTERVIEWING TWO FOOD INSECURE STUDENTS

*our food waste crisis*

For privacy and security reasons, we will be keeping these students anonymous. Our school has a very small percentage of food insecure students, and most of us are privileged enough to not have to worry about money for food. But there are still some kids in our community who do, and we don't want to cause them any emotional distress from broadcasting personal information to others.



# INTERVIEWING TWO FOOD INSECURE STUDENTS

*our food waste crisis*

## STUDENT #1

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"Many people don't know that I'm food insecure. It's weird because you see kids strolling in with multiple iPhones and Moncler jackets, meanwhile other kids have to choose between being hungry or having clean clothes."

## STUDENT #2

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"I feel like most kids at our school are not food insecure. Because our school is so academic, it's kind of hard for our because food insecure students have less access to resources that others have readily available."



# OUR PLAN TO REDUCE FOOD WASTE

*our food waste crisis*

- Leftover lunches, bagels, and other perishable foods could be resold at a lower price after school. A lot of kids have sports and clubs after school and often have to resort to eating unhealthy snacks when they don't have access to other options. This helps with minimizing waste and ensuring that students are able to eat enough and be healthy.
- Perishable snacks that aren't bought could be donated to a food shelter (Long Island Harvest). Some snacks in vending machines are rarely bought, so they could either be switched out for ones that are more popular with the students. Or, they could be removed and donated if they remain when the vending companies restock the machines every week.
- We can begin composting some cafeteria food waste, especially vegetable scraps. Our school provides salads that are sometimes uneaten, and sometimes there can be vegetables that aren't fresh so they are separated from the lunches. Those can be composted.

# OUR PLAN TO REDUCE FOOD WASTE

*our food waste crisis*

We approached our science research teacher, Dr. Giallorenzo, and our head custodian, Fred Mandracchia.



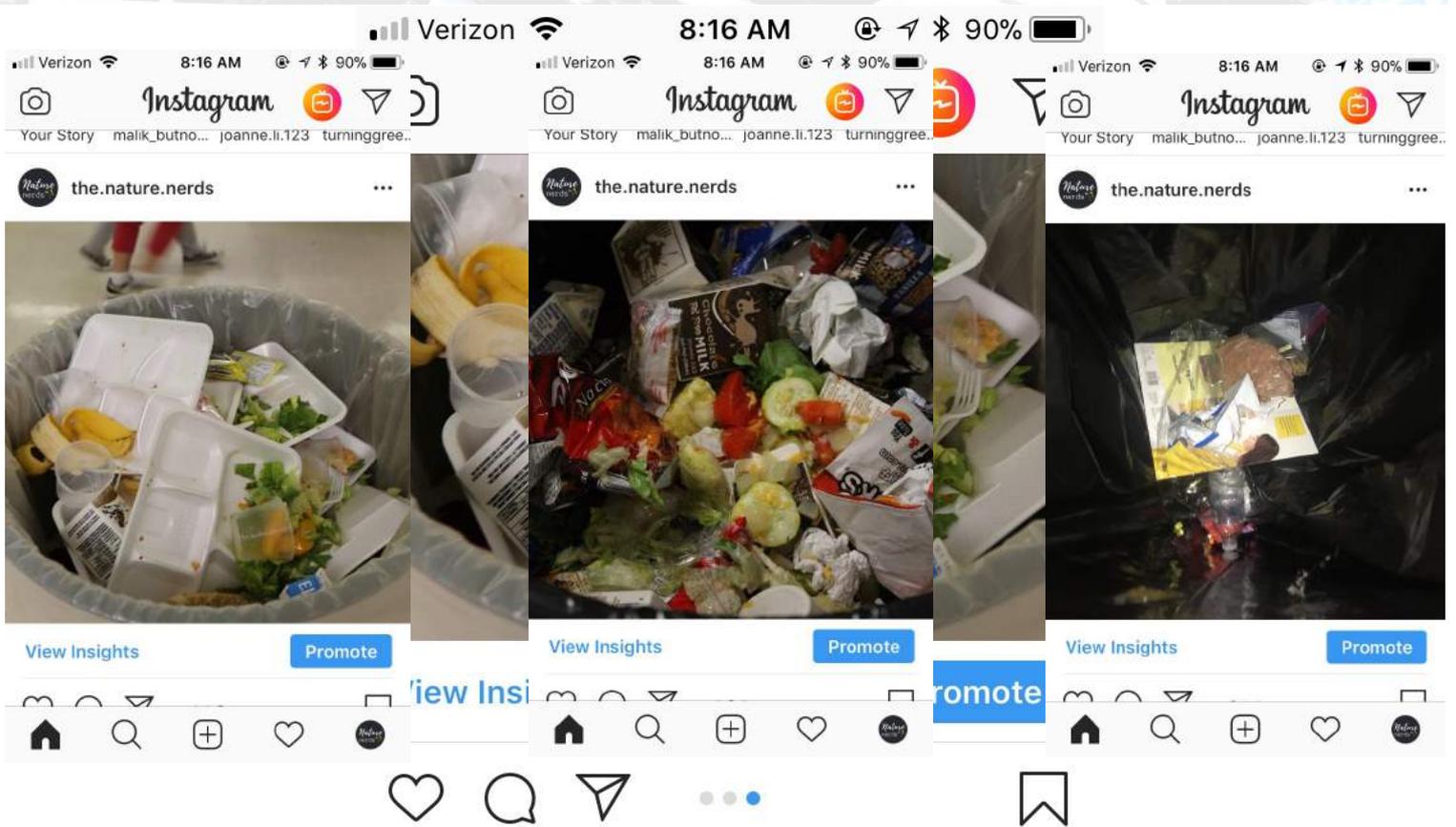
Dr. Giallorenzo's response:  
He encouraged our ideas and was the one who initially brought our plans to Mr. Mandracchia's attention.

Mr. Mandracchia's response:  
He liked all of our ideas, but told us that we needed to speak to the head of the cafeteria staff in regard to our first idea. For our second idea, he told us that he would need contact the company who is in charge of restocking the vending machines. We are currently waiting for their reply. Mr. Mandracchia not only liked our third idea, he gave us the go-ahead to implement it! We were able to place composting bins in our school cafeteria in the morning! After school everyday, someone would simply empty out the bins in the composting area in the back of the school. We added our message about composting bins in our school's morning announcements, so many people were aware of them and contributed when possible! Since our cafeteria doesn't generate a lot of fresh vegetable waste, we will be able to accumulate steady amounts of compost! Pictures below:



# SOCIAL MEDIA

## *our food waste crisis*



**the.nature.nerds** For our food waste challenge, we looked into waste in our school. We found them in our hallway, science classroom, and in our cafeteria. It includes a lot of plastic packaged food, some vegetables, and dairy products. We can reduce all of this waste by making sure to eat all of the food that we buy! @turninggreenorg #pgc2018 🌱🌍

