

Results from of NVPAC Survey or North Vancouver Schools, December 2021

A [survey of NV PACs](#) was conducted online between December 6th and Dec. 27th, 2021, in collaboration with NVPAC and a VCH Public Health Dietitian.

16 people (mostly school lunch coordinators or PAC executive) responded to the survey. Of 25 elementary schools and 7 secondary schools in North Vancouver School District, 16 responses from 13 elementary schools (**52% response rate from NVSD elementary PACs**) and 1 secondary school (14%) were received. Two schools had two different individuals complete the survey. Below is a collated summary of results, to be shared with school principals, PAC executive, and respondents.

Q. How often does your PAC sell food/drinks to students at school?

Most common response was “Once a week” —9 out of 13 (69%) elementary schools.

2 out of 13 (15%) elementary schools responded “Twice a week”.

1 out of 13 (8%) responded “twice a month”.

1 responded “0” during COVID.

The secondary school responded they sell food 3 times per week.

Q. Please list your vendors (used by School PACs)

Stores: Save-on-Foods, City Market, Superstore, Costco

Meals: Magic Lunch Box, Well Fed, Moveable Feast, Foodie Kids (Foodeaze), Urban Flavour, White Spot,

Sushi, Pizza (Fresh Slice, Panago, Papa Johns), Subway

Drinks: Dairyland/Saputo, Booster Juice, GnuSante

Frozen: TCBY, MaxFrut bars

Other: COBS, Stuffies Pastries

Q. Besides a lunch program, please list other food-related fundraisers or events where food is sold at school?

Sell plants, clothing, and utensils.

Sell seeds and veggie/fruit seedling sale.

Meridian Market, Growing Smiles fundraiser. Coffee fundraiser

COBS fundraising, Sprout, SPUD, Samosa fundraising company

Purdy's, Frozen treats

“Pre-Covid: pumpkin patch and Christmas market bake sale tables, movie night pizza dinner and popcorn, family dance concessions stand, seeds and veggie/fruit seeding sale.
During Covid: Grade 7 Purdys and frozen cookie/muffin mix, coffee. Whole school: veggie/fruit seedlings sale, Well Fed frozen meals, COBS hot cross buns fundraiser, MaxFruit popsicle fundraiser.”

Q. Does your school have other healthy eating initiatives?

School Garden – (9) and 1 “Gardening”

BC Fruit and Vegetable Program (10)

Edible Garden Project (2)

Seedling sale (6)

Composting/vermicomposting (3)

Farm tours (3)

Cooking classes/activities (2)

Spuds in Tubs (Agriculture in the Classroom) (1)

Q. Who maintains your school garden over the summer?

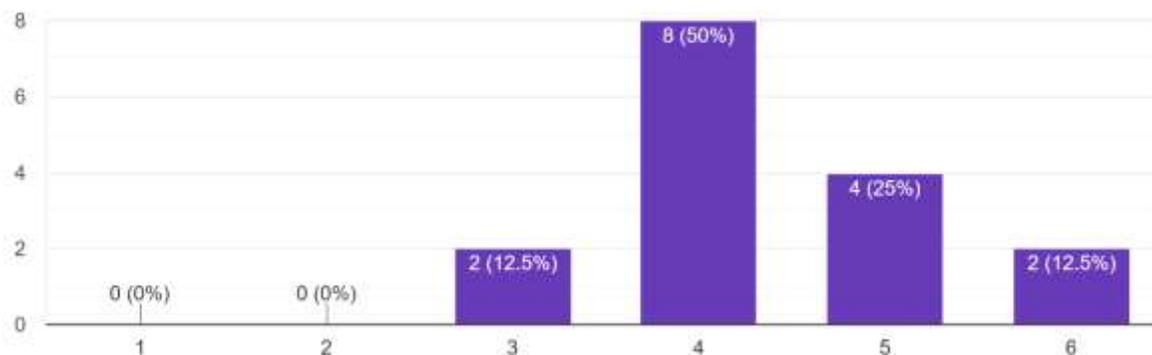
7 out of 13 (54%) elementary schools responded “Parents”.

1 said, “We have parents and teachers who volunteer to manage the garden when school is out.”

Q. On a scale of 1 to 6, with 1 being “Not at All”, and 6 being “Totally”,

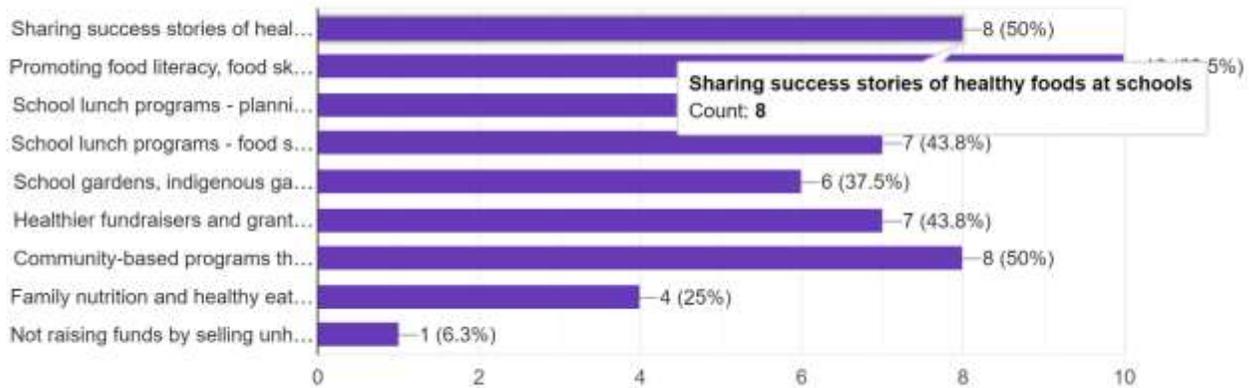
Generally, to what extent would you say that there is a “healthy food culture or environment” at your school?

16 responses



What topics would you like covered during a virtual workshop on Feb. 9th?

16 responses



Discussion

The NVPAC survey results provided useful information to plan the NVPAC workshop scheduled for Feb. 9th, 7-9pm—“Collaborating to Promote Healthy Food Environments at School.”

While responses were received from only 52% of the 25 elementary schools in NVSD, the responses regarding “topics you would like covered” will guide the workshop content. All 8 topics were selected by at least 25% of respondents. Promoting food literacy/food skills in children, and sharing success stories of healthy foods at school, plus the other topics listed in the survey questionnaire will be addressed on Feb. 9th.

The purpose of the workshop is to support schools in planning healthier fundraisers and to promote food literacy. Information and resources for PACs will be discussed, to support healthy school food/systems.

Please contact [Helen Yeung](#), Public Health Dietitian with Vancouver Coastal Health, if you have questions about this report. Thank you to all the staff, administrators, and volunteers who helped complete this survey.

January 21, 2022