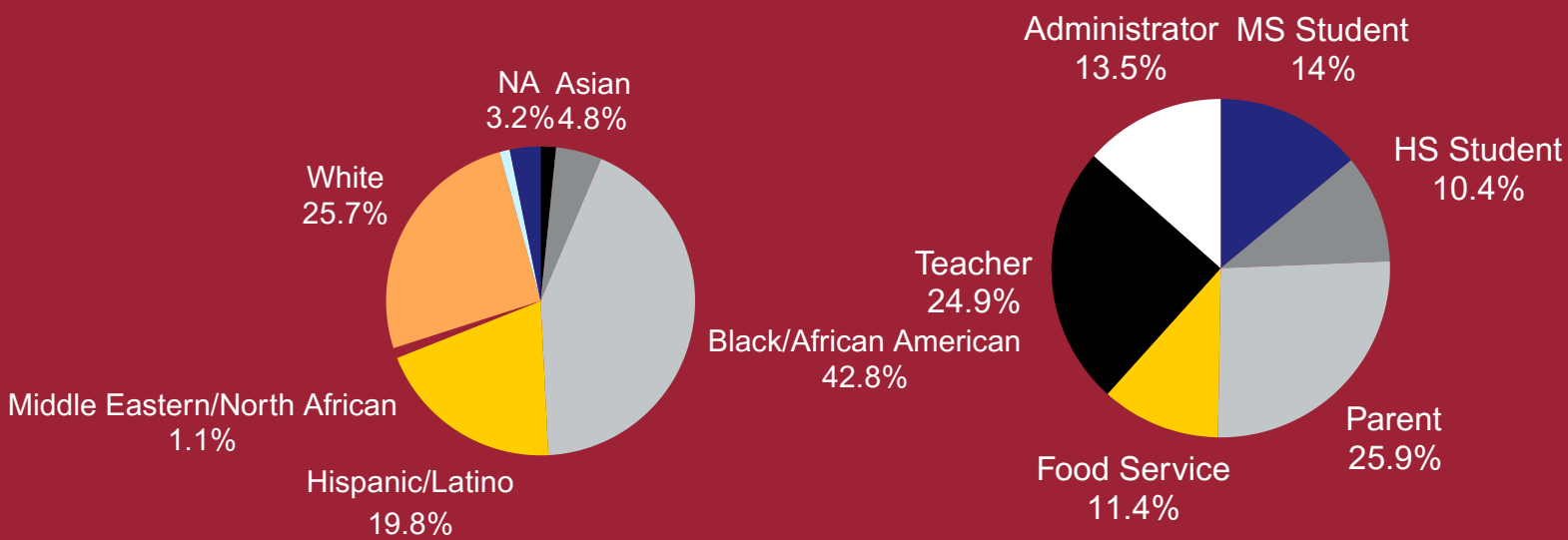


School Meals at The School District of Philadelphia

What do the students, parents, and staff at the school district think about school meals?

Who did we talk to?

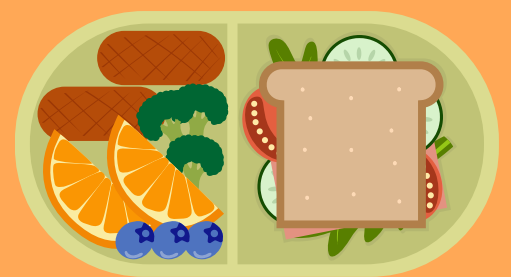
We learned from 193 participants across 8 schools (6 elementary-middle, 2 high) in the district. Participants were varied in terms of race, ethnicity, and we had an equal distribution of roles.



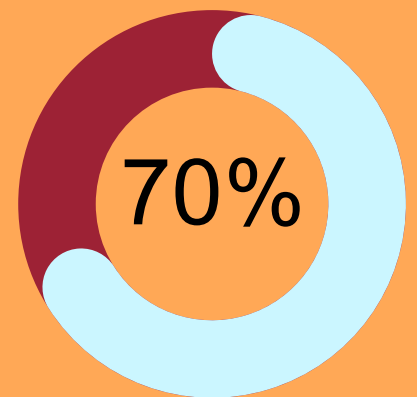
What did we find?



Of students feel that the school food is healthy (answered either "agree" or "strongly agree")



Of students feel school meals helps students struggling with hunger (answered either "agree" or "strongly agree")



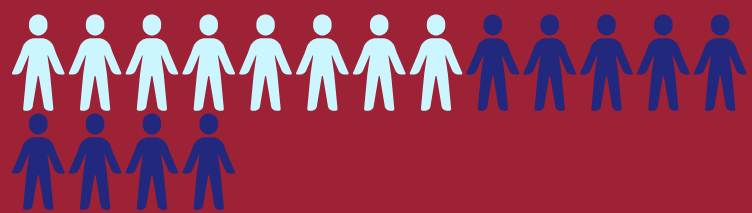
'I feel like they put like other stuff on the plate that we don't eat instead of just giving us more of things we like.'
(MS Student)

Students feel that they do **not** have a say in the foods included in the program

Of food service responded that complying with this program **somewhat** requires more work than what can be accomplished with current resources available to their school



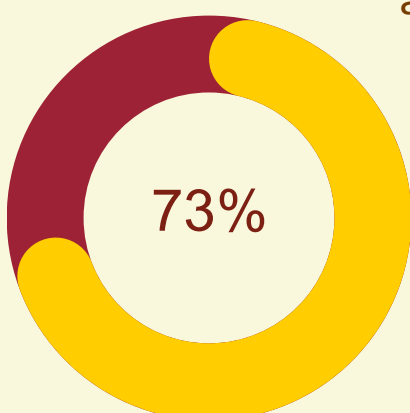
8 out of 17 administrators believe the school meals program takes the culture of the local area into account



Of parents believe the school meals program takes their beliefs/interests into account



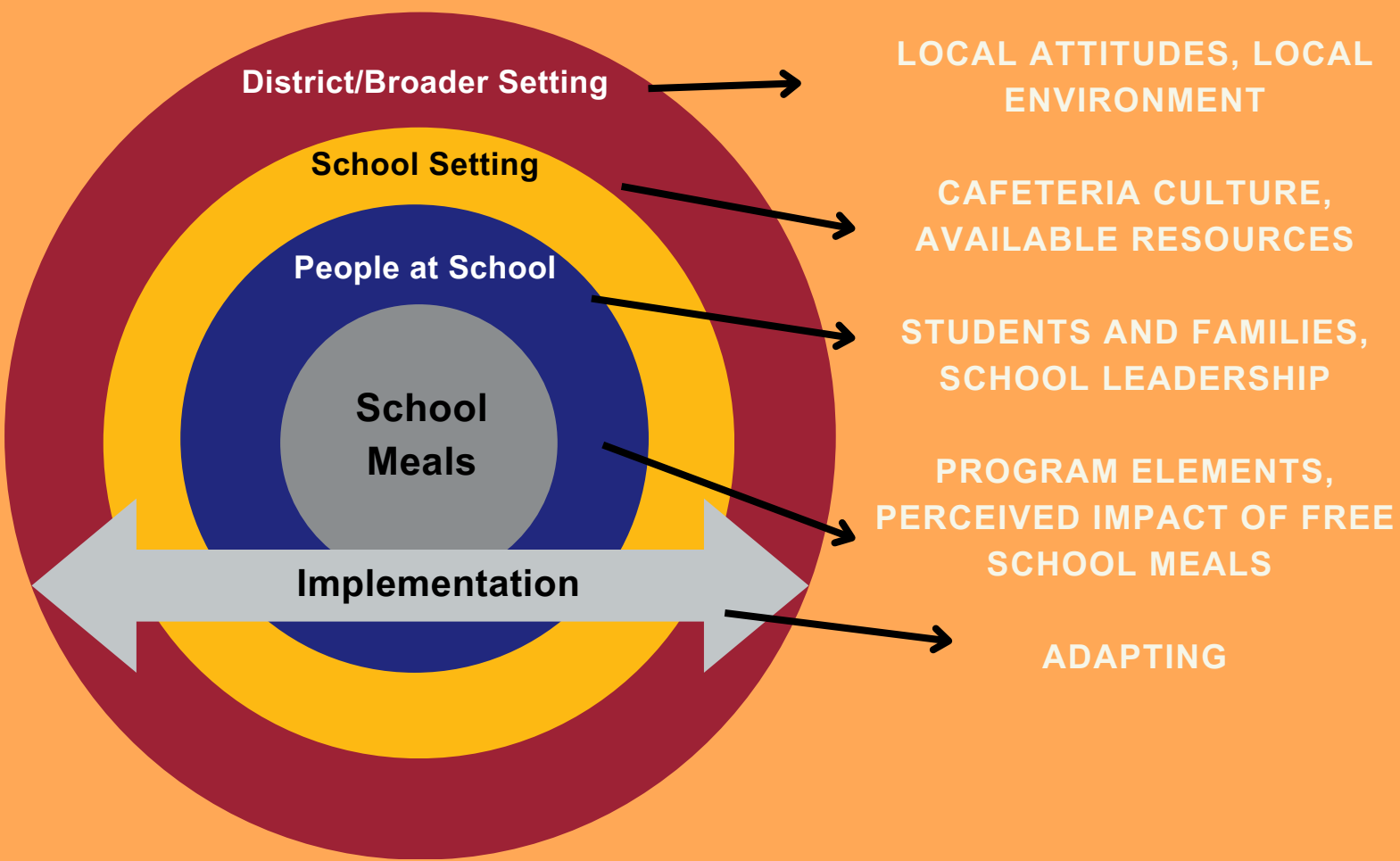
'The benefits of free lunch and free breakfast is it comes in handy because a lot of parents right now are, you know, living under their needs, you know, living paycheck to paycheck. Sometimes parents don't got, you know, food in their fridge to feed their kids. So being able to go to school and get two free meals is important.'
(Parent)



Of parents believe the program somewhat/really helps students struggling with food insecurity



Most popular focus areas from the district



Insights from Students

‘They call it a freebie. Yeah. It's like, oh, you're getting you're getting the free lunch. You suck.’ - Cafeteria Culture

Insights from Parents

‘In the last two years, it's become very inclusive and very like we're serving was what it is the thing falafels and stuff... so I know that the district as a whole it is reflecting a different cultures.’ - Local Attitudes

Insights from Staff

‘And I think that today, when they eat it, they're more focused. And clearly, they need it, right? Because they maybe haven't eaten yet. And it just gives them that little boost.’ - Perceived Impact of Free Meals

How we will use these findings?

- We are sharing the findings from this study across the city of Philadelphia, the United States, and internationally to raise awareness of school meals
- We are using these results to design and evaluate changes to implementation of school meals next year

How can you get involved?

- We have a Community Advisory Board (CAB) and are building a community network listserv to share updates on the project. Want to get involved? Contact us below!



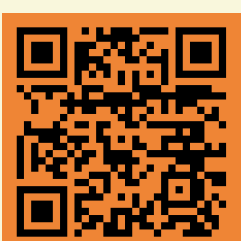
About us!

We are a research Team at Temple called the **Community-Driven Implementation Science lab**.
What does this mean?
 We do research that is driven by the needs of the community by partnering with local experts and people who are often not included in research. We use a range of methods aimed at improving delivery of evidence-based programs to promote health equity

About our Community Advisory Board
 We led this project in partnership with our Community Advisory Board (CAB). Here are our members and their roles:
Laura Crandall, Office of Children and Families
Dr. Jonathan Deustch, Drexel Food Lab
Irene Hong, Feeding Philly/Student
Hillary Kane, PHENND/Parent
Jacob Kurtz, Reinvestment Fund/Teacher
Rose Marone, Feeding Philly/Student
Randy Persaud, Jefferson Graduate Student
Sultan Raheem, Parent representative



Contact us! Scan the QR code to send an email to our team



Our funders!



National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute