The Meals & Muppets Project

Project Description

What do muppets, produce and superintendents have in common? They are all essential aspects of the journey we are about to embark on this semester. In this cross-curricular project, students will be looking at the essential question, “What impact can we have on the food we are provided?” Inspired from student voices criticizing our school’s lunch program, we aim to dive deeply into school policy reform in an attempt to re-imagine what school lunch can be at our campus. In this semester long project, our students will be learning about healthy food choices and food justice, in order to develop our own professionally produced video, using muppets as a tool to engage our neighboring elementary school, HTe. We will be exploring school policy, and interacting with some of the most influential administrators in the South Bay educational community in an effort to impact and change the current lunch program here at our school and throughout our neighboring South Bay schools. We will be learning about healthy food choices and lifestyles, from how to start and run your own farm, to how to prepare a healthy meal from scratch using locally sourced produce and ingredients. Ultimately, coming together at our annual @TheTable event hosted by our students to bring together local policy makers, administrators and food service professionals to plan and discuss the reform of the lunch program throughout our community. Get Ready for an EPIC adventure! We are excited to get this project started with you!

Project Work

Driving Questions

How does writing impact our community?
What makes “healthy” food healthy?
What rights do consumers have about the information regarding their food?
What impact can we have on the food we are provided?

Phase 1 - Deliverables

- Professionally constructed Muppet cast member
- Detailed Storyboard with Actor and Camera cues
- HTMCV Street episode segment Script
- HTMCV Street experience set (exhibition)

August - December

Phase 2 - Deliverables

- Analytical report of Survey data
- Article submission for El Pueblo Farm magazine
- @TheTable Farmers’ Market handouts and signage

January - March

If it came from a plant, eat it; if it was made in a plant, don’t.
- Michael Pollan
What makes for a strong community? Think about community from a local level, such as a family, classroom, or neighborhood, to a more macroscopic level such as nation or world. Cite examples from Seedfolks and from our Socratic Seminar discussion to support your response.
How can we build a stronger K-8 (HTe & HTM) community around eating and living “healthy” lives? Jot down notes, doodle pictures, dream big, every idea is an amazing idea!
What is your favorite food to eat? Why?

What are some traditional foods that your family eats? What can you tell us about the history of those traditions?

What does it mean to eat “healthy”? Do middle school students eat “healthy”? Why or Why not?
HTMCV Street Episode Planning

Brainstorming Notes: