



Educate and inspire all students, while nurturing their dreams, so they learn continually, think critically, pursue their aspirations and contribute to a diverse and dynamic world.



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Home cooked meals at school? How the White Plains City School District is working to increase food service and meal satisfaction for all students.

White Plains, March 1, 2023: The White Plains City School District, Brigaid and Noto Nutrition Consulting have teamed up to support the district's culinary goals for healthy and delicious fare while increasing student satisfaction. The school district has been working to enhance their self-operated meal program and conducted a full assessment and evaluation of its existing food service and nutrition program in the Fall of 2020. The assessment outcomes identified areas of opportunity that would lower overall expenses, enhance food offerings, and increase student satisfaction.

A formal Request for Proposal (RFP) process followed the assessment, to solicit, rate and review prospective vendors who could fulfill the district's needs. The RFP process, resulted in the district contracting with Brigaid and Noto Nutrition to support Food Service & Nutrition staff in meeting the district's culinary goals of increasing wholesome scratch cooking, utilizing more local New York State products from farm to table, and expanding menu variety for students.

Brigaid is a team of professional chefs who help school meal programs thrive. Through hands-on training, one-on-one mentorship, and customized solutions, Brigaid's team of chefs partner with programs to help them both achieve their operational goals and empower and support staff members through high quality, individualized professional development.

In early February, Brigaid Chef Patrick Firmender began working with the WPCSD's dedicated team members in the Food & Nutrition Services department. Chef Firmender will continue to serve as a resource and professional support team member to all WPCSD staff members so that they may deepen their culinary skills and transition to more "from scratch" cooking. Ultimately, the goal of this partnership is to support staff members with the proficiencies needed to drive and grow the program on their own.

Noto Nutrition Consulting is led by Stephanie Noto, a Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist and Food Service expert who has helped many school districts balance the nutritional needs of students with their taste preferences. She supports their nutrition education by exposing students to new and exciting foods. These dedicated team members have already begun their work supporting the WPCSD Food & Nutrition Services department, and the District is excited about all the changes to come.

To learn more about these contractors, visit Brigaid at <https://www.chefsbrigaid.com/> and Noto Nutrition Consulting at <https://www.notonutrition.com/>.