

Nutrition Pilot Project Success Story

Local, Food Skills and Food Security



Barkers Point Elementary and Gesner Elementary School

Barkers Point Elementary is a K-5 elementary school with a population of around 340 students. Gesner Elementary School is a K-2 elementary school with a student population of 270 students.

Students at Barkers Point Elementary have been planting, growing and harvesting fruits and vegetables from 8 gardens in the school yard. Last year, they added a hydroponic grow tower to assist in getting their plants a great start before transplanting.

Chef Roberta, of Tots 'n Taters catering, joined Barkers Point School as the food service provider. Her passion for providing nutritional options while educating students about food has provided a wonderful learning opportunity for the students. Chef Roberta, as mentioned in the Geary Nutrition Success Story, believes that students can benefit from learning about food gardens and food preparation.

With school gardens and a hydroponic tower already underway, Barkers Point and Gesner Elementary, with the help of Roberta of course, have decided to use this Nutrition Pilot Project opportunity to further students' knowledge about where food comes from and visit the full cycle of planting, growing, harvesting and preparation.

The previous schools' projects had focused on those key factors, but learning more about the origins of food all the way to preparation is what students from both elementary schools will learn together.

What better way to do this than by having the students from Barkers Point host a visit for Gesner Elementary students. Barkers Point students can show what has already been put in place, so that Gesner can learn from and with the students at Barkers Point. On March 22nd, students from Gesner Elementary will visit Barker's Point Elementary to do just that.

Jeanne Wood and Heather Cripps, together with students and Chef Roberta will work together to ensure that students help each other, learn together, and enhance their food knowledge.

We would like to celebrate the strong partnership between the schools and their continued efforts to ensure a healthy school food environment for our students in New Brunswick. We congratulate Barkers Point and Gesner Elementary, and we are proud to share their Nutrition Pilot Project Success Story!