

# Behind the Scenes of LunchLAB at Lord Roberts Elementary School



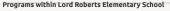
# ABOUT

### COMMUNITY PROJECT

· Partnership: Lord Roberts Elementary School

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- Project Director: Brent Mansfield
- Location: West End of Downtown Vancouver
- Student Body: 40+ different countries represented (Working directly with students in grades 4-7)
- Mission of LunchLAB: promote a hands on learning experience through gardening, cooking activities and nutrition education in an inclusive environment



- Edible Education: a weekly food education program teaching children about nutrition, culturally diverse foods, the preparation process of healthy meals and
- the different types of food in the food system
- LunchLAB: Learn, Access and Build a Strong
- Empower children and youth, provide access to a balanced diet while participating and building strong relationships with



#### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Collect soil samples from old and new plots in Lord Roberts School Garden and conduct multiple soil tests

- Nutrient Composition (Phosphorus, Potassium, Nitrogen)
- pH of the Soil
- Water Composition
- · Organic Matter Composition

Outcome: the project director will more knowledge around the composition of the school garden's soil

- 2. Create a Crop Schedule
- Outcome: the project director will be better supported in conducting an effective gardening program in the 2020 season
- Outcome: the project director will have a greater foundation in the construction of a compost system

### RESULTS

#### SOIL TEST Nitrogen 350°C 2 31% Old Bed #2 2.15% High Old Red #3 Hiah 2.25% 0.23% Old Bed #4 Low Medium 1.84% 0.19% 2.59% Old Bed #5 Low High 0.19% Trace Old Bed #6 Low High 0 12% 2.25% New Bed #1 Trace High Trace 2.25% New Bed #2 Trace Mediun Trace New Bed #3 1.35% 0.18% New Bed #4 Medium 1.29% 0.14% New Bed #5 High Low Trace 1.81% 0.21% New Bed #6 Low High Trace

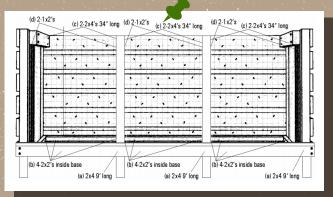
#### \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ HARVEST SCHEDULE Bed 1 Bed 3 Bed 4 Bed 5 Brassicaceae Solanaceae Umbelliferae Brassicaceae Solanaceae Umbelliferge

Umbelliferae

Alliaceae/Leguminosae: garlic, onions, chives, soybeans, lentils, chickpeas

- Brassicaceae: bok choy, broccoli, cabbage, kale,
- · Solanaceae: potatoes, pepper, tomatoes, eggplants
- · Umbelliferae: carrots, celery, parsley, fennel
- · Cuberitaceae/ Chenopodiaceae: cucumber, squash,

## COMPOST SYSTEM



The Project Director, Brent Mansfield, discussed incorporating a compost system. Two methods were proposed: a repurposed compost bin system and a three bin compost system. After analyzing the state of the school's garden, Brent decided that the three bin compost system worked best with their school system.

In accordance with the Vancouver School Board's (VSB) policies, a three bin compost system proposal was created. Based on the VSB guidelines, the proposal incorporates a modified construction of three wooden bins with removable plexiglass panels to allow the students to observe the different stages of composting.



# IMPLICATIONS

Based on the results of the activities, the following recommendations have been given to the project manager: For the Soil:

a) Increase the levels of nitrogen and phosphorus through nitrogen and phosphorus inoculate b) Add fertilizer to the new soil beds to help improve nutrient levels in order to fortify the health of the soil

Alternative option: using non-organic fertilizer may be a viable option because it is more cost efficient

a) Provide an adaptive crop schedule that the project manager is able to refer to throughout the year

- The crop schedule allows the freedom to incorporate culturally diverse plants
- Allows students to express the types of plants they want to incorporate in their garden, promoting student engagement and will enhance their food literacy skills

a) The plexiglass cover for the three bin compost system allows students to monitor and witness the changes within this

