



On Saturday, March 29, APS Nutrition Services hosted the Student Wellness Expo and Chef Competitions at Toomer Elementary School. Student chefs from around the district competed in two separate competitions to see who's culinary skills reigned supreme. Clever Cooks, the 4th-8th grade competition, had students submit recipes that follow the National School Lunch Program's recipe guidelines. Eight students were chosen to cook live from the over fifty that applied based on their recipe.

- Lawrence Barlow-7th Grade BEST Academy
- Jada Gonzalez-5th Grade Garden Hills
- Helen Doncaster-4th Grade Garden Hills
- **Danika Kolay-5th Grade Mary Lin**
- Caeli Avery-8th Grade Wesley Academy
- Parker Elizabeth Pumpelly-4th Grade Springdale Park
- Evelyn Hawkins-4th Grade Burgess Peterson
- Aaliyah Lottie-5th Grade Toomer



Danika Kolay took home 1st place with her Rainbow Veggie Salad. Her winning recipe will be featured on the APS lunch menus during National School Lunch Week in October.

This year, our high school chefs got to showcase their culinary creativity in our High School Chopped Competition. Over thirty students entered and nine students were chosen to compete live where they had four mystery ingredients revealed to them at the start of the competition and 30 minutes to use all four ingredients in their dish. Our Chopped contestants knocked it out of the park. Eli Baker from Maynard Jackson took home the top honor and his winning dish will be featured on the high school lunch menus during National School Lunch Week in October.

- Dominique Wess-12th Grade Douglass High
- Dior Henderson-12th Grade Douglass High
- **Eli Baker-10th Grade Maynard Jackson High**
- Synira Porter-12th Grade Mays High
- Ava Vinson-11th Grade Maynard Jackson High
- Jaiden Darden-9th Grade South Atlanta High
- Jason Lewis-10th Grade Maynard Jackson High
- Nathan Black-12th Grade Maynard Jackson High
- Aaliya Turner-11th Grade Therrell High



The Student Wellness Expo and Chef Competitions is Nutrition Services annual event to raise awareness around the importance of creating healthy habits. Wellness encompasses more than just nutrition so the Expo brings a holistic approach to student health. Over 150 students from 20 different schools were in attendance. Students had the opportunity to experience interactive classes like yoga, internet safety, nutrition education, and gardening. Several of our community partners, including American Heart Association, Girls on the Run, HealthMPowers, Whiteford Clinic and our host Toomer Elementary were also in attendance to visit with students and provide their messaging around healthy habits. CHOA closed out the day with their energetic pep rally, Strong4Life.