

Taylor Ross

## Lunch Room Clean Up

Making contributions to help your communities will allow others to be a better person. Last Wednesday during lunch, many people like to get as much food as they can and the majority of it, but not all. Others enjoy making art out of their food to show to their friends, yet they still don't eat it. Walking down the aisles at lunch can really make a person feel concerned. I felt like the kitchen staff needed to be appreciated, and if someone throws all of their food away and doesn't bother to put it in the compost then they should think twice and fix their mistake for next time. People don't understand that food can really change a person's life.

After ten to twenty minutes people quickly try to get out as quickly as possible, so they can get to play or recess. Disposing of leftovers at my school makes it so that the students' food should go in the right place, but that is controversial. Since people are rushing, they throw their diminished food on the floor or in the recycling, although others throw theirs in the compost, which is the right place to throw food away. I'm usually the last person to clear their plate, so I am able to see where others dumped their food. Shortly after, my mind starts to think about how I can help the lunch staff by cleaning up.

Other students will eat, mess up the table, and refuse to use the provided napkin to clean their mess up. Most of the teachers will even ask the student if they could throw away a piece of trash and that student will refuse to do so. At these moments I also think about how I can contribute to help the cleaning staff in the lunch area.

After seeing these unkind acts of kindness I decide to do the opposite. I decide to start picking up the trash I see around the compost recycling and the regular trash area. I pick up the pieces of trash and distribute them into their rightful place. The head janitor of the lunch sees me do this generous act of kindness and thanks me. The janitor then says, " Since you are making wonderful contributions I don't have to stay after school to make sure that the students can have a great lunch the next day." Shortly after, all of the kids in the cafeteria knew that they were not appreciating the lunch staff's work and decided to do better by throwing their trash in the recycling and food in the compost. I felt great and am on a journey to help others more often in my many communities.

