



January 8, 2024

Newark Board of Education  
765 Broad Street  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Attn: Valerie Wilson

Hello Ms. Wilson,

We are excited to share our new project, Love Your Lunch with the Newark Public Schools' kindergarten classrooms! We are working to fight the lunch-shaming commonly experienced by Asian American and other students who bring culturally diverse foods to school. Through art, reading, and other resources for parents, students, educators, Love Your Lunch aims to nurture curiosity about the foods we cherish, and encourage children to take pride in their families' food traditions.

**As part of this campaign, we would like your approval to donate the following Love Your Lunch Gift Boxes to Newark's 182 sections of kindergarten classrooms.**

### **DONATION**

Each Love Your Lunch Gift Box will contain:

- 3 books for each kindergarten teacher (samples enclosed):
  - Lunch From Home
  - What's That
  - Plátanos Are Love
- Copies of the following documents (samples attached):
  - Educator Guide to share with teachers, created in partnership with an AAPI mental health professional based in Montclair, Pauline Montemayor, LCSW.
  - Parent/Caregiver Guide for each kindergarten teacher to share with their students' families. Each Love Your Lunch Gift Box will include 25 copies.
  - Art Template for teachers to incorporate a classroom activity with their students to draw their favorite lunch and describe what they love about them. We're inviting teachers to display these drawings in their classrooms and use them to spark conversations about how every food is yummy and connects in some way to where our families are from and the traditions we inherit. Each Love Your Lunch Gift Box will include 25 copies.

### **LOGISTICS & TIMING**

We are proud to partner with Audible and their Asians@Audible employee group, who will assemble the Love Your Lunch Gift Boxes and distribute them to the 44 schools. **We plan to assemble the boxes on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at the Audible headquarters and deliver them starting that afternoon and through Wednesday, February 28.**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please reach out to me with any questions:

Roslyne Shiao  
AAPI New Jersey  
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This donation is made possible by AAPI New Jersey, through our initiative Teach Asian American Stories.. For more information about this project and to find the PDF templates to print yourself, please visit [loveyourlunch.org](http://loveyourlunch.org).

Thank you and please reach out if you have any questions or feedback.

Sincerely,

Roslyne Shiao  
Co-Executive Director  
AAPI New Jersey  
roslyne.shiao@aapimontclair.org