

Collaborative Outcome: **20,459 cans** collected for Ashley County food banks

From Jessi Griffith, HHS: "Win or Lose I feel compelled to share some of the incredible moments I witnessed the final week of the Ashley County Souper Bowl.

1. **Pure Excitement.** Teenagers excited to come to school and show what they had to contribute.
2. **Student Initiative.** High School kids called businesses, family members, and friends asking for donations. Some students went door to door. We didn't do that, they did.
3. **Invoked Future Thinking.** One student said, "When we are older, and kids come to us, we can't be stingy." They acknowledged the position they were in and how they could be lifelong givers.
4. **Comparison Shopping/ Financial Responsibility.** Students went to multiple stores to find the best prices to get the most out of their money.
5. **Selflessness.** I know several students spent their own paycheck on food items. One spent \$150 of her own money.
6. **Teamwork and Organization.** We worked as a team with an organized plan and hardworking kids to count an impressive number of items in about an hour. It was flawless and incredible.
7. **Collaboration.** Kids that don't normally talk or hangout spent many hours after school working together and enjoying one another's company.
8. **Problem Solving.** These kids would fall behind in the race and discuss solutions to get back in the lead. Also, learned how to stretch a buck.
9. **Meaningful Conversations.** The kids wanted to get items that people would need not just cans, but salt, cooking oil, cake mix, icing, etc. These kids wanted to win, but wanted to buy items with purpose.
10. **Public Speaking.** Teachers did not speak for them or ask for donations. Our kids went out in the public and through their conversations promoted this cause.
11. **Community/School Spirit.** I saw and heard kids be excited to be a part of the Hamburg School District. They enjoyed coming to school, going out in the community, and coming together to work towards a common goal.

I write all this to shine light on small town rivalries and the exceptional character our teenagers have in the Hamburg School District. I hope that this experience stays with them always and the life skills they gained help ensure a positive future for our community and many others."

[Jessi Griffith, D-FAC Curriculum Consultant/Advisor, Teacher Hamburg High School]

Amen.....