



RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL

New Position

Culinary Specialist

October 22, 2025

Due to the upcoming vacancy in the district chef position, administration is recommending the addition of a **Culinary Specialist** position within the Food Service contract group. This position will be graded at Level 9, equivalent to a Lead Cook II (High School and Middle School Lead Cook).

The Culinary Specialist will assume many of the responsibilities currently performed by the district's contracted chef, including menu development support, food samplings, scratch cooking initiatives, promotional and marketing activities, and coordination of special menu events.

As the district chef transitions to a new role with Taher, we plan to revise our agreement to retain access to Taher's programs, marketing materials, and periodic chef visits while bringing much of the culinary and promotional work in-house. This change is projected to result in an estimated annual savings of approximately \$57,000 for Fund 2 - Food and Nutrition Services.

A position description for the Culinary Specialist is included.

Administration recommends approval of this position.

Submitted by: Jennifer Seubert, Director of Finance and Operations and Brittney Hirschauer, Director of Food and Nutrition Services