



# CHELSEA

## SCHOOL DISTRICT

### FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES

740 N. Freer Road  
Chelsea, MI 48118  
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[www.chelsea.k12.mi.us](http://www.chelsea.k12.mi.us)

**To:** Board of Education

**From:** Chris Simpson

**Re:** September Food Service Board Report

**Date:** 9/3/2025

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! I can't believe how quickly the summer passed us by! I hope you all were able to spend some time resting and relaxing with your families! We are off to a great start in Food Service and I know it will be another great year. Our biggest transition piece was of course switching our POS from MealTime to Meal Magic and the transition has been successful! All student data and existing balances and benefit status transferred over thanks to the help of Ryan Spencer and the tech team! I sent out a couple of communications to families with info on how to access their child(s) account and I think it's been going well. On the back end, it has simplified many processes for me and I am grateful for the support of this change!

Of course, the elephant in the room remains what happens to free meals at the end of this month, and at this time, I still don't have news to share on this issue. I participated in a webinar from MDE toward the beginning of August and they were remaining optimistic that the program would continue, so that's the hope I am currently holding onto! As soon as we have the information required, I will communicate again to all families with as much notice as possible.

#### **Staffing:**

- We were able to hire 4 assistant cooks over the summer with room for 1 more!  
Please welcome:
  - Christina Trevino - Assistant Cook CHS
  - Shannon Boulanger - Assistant Cook SME
  - Faye Hendershot - Assistant Cook BMS
  - Katelyn Draper - Assistant Cook BMS
- Katelyn worked for us last year but left for an opportunity that turned out to be not what she was expecting so we were excited to be able to welcome her back!
- Shannon also works for Transportation as a bus driver! She has been a great addition to our team at South Meadows so far!
- Both Rachel Keeler and Fran Barton are having success so far in their new Head Cook roles at South Meadows and CHS respectively!

#### **Financials:**

- The Senior Center ran through June, July, and August with a sales volume of about \$40,000.



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- We are in the process of applying for the 10 Cents a Meal grant which is a matching grant that we can use to purchase local Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and dry beans! Last year, we received \$14k from this grant.
- Participation remains steady at around 60% throughout the district for our breakfast and lunch programs!
- Per MDE, we were required to raise our adult meal prices this year. Adult breakfasts increased \$0.08 to \$2.75 and lunch prices increased \$0.39 to \$5.50. We also had to raise some of our a la carte pricing to stay in line with the MDE and USDA requirement of 40% food cost.
- I am hoping to get some additional revenue streams up and running this year which would include a dedicated adult menu that staff could preorder meals from, as well as the potential to sell some take-and-bake items that they could purchase and take home on Friday to cook for dinner or freeze for another time such as a pizza or a pasta dish!

Respectfully,  
Chris Simpson, Director of Food Services  
Chelsea School District