

REPORT NAME: Food Service Contract

REPORT OF: Food Service

FOR: Information

APPLICABLE LAW AND/OR POLICY: 8500 Food services

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: #5

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE ALIGNMENT: Through collective responsibility, establish a physical and operational environment of safety, cleanliness, innovative spaces and high expectations, partnering with parents, families, community and industry to ensure the highest level of performance by all stakeholders.

FISCAL FUND IMPACT: Approximately \$2,790,000 FY 2026 Food Service Fund

IMPACT AMOUNT: The cost of this contract will be met by school meals revenue and federal reimbursement.

MEETING TYPE: Special

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

In alignment with the outcome of last year's Food Service RFP process, Southfield Public Schools issued RFP 2025-04 to secure a Food Service Management Company (FSMC) for the 2025–2026 school year and beyond. The scope of work remains consistent, covering all food, labor, and supervision for district nutrition programs, including the National School Meals Program, Summer Meals Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Proposals were evaluated by a cross-functional committee of district administrators and school leadership. Evaluation criteria included proposed management personnel, operational and nutritional plans, company support, marketing strategy, employee development, budget integrity, and projected student participation impact.

After a comprehensive review, the committee unanimously selected SFE (Southwest Foodservice Excellence) as the preliminary awardee, consistent with their strong performance in the prior cycle and alignment with district goals.

Pending Michigan Department of Education (MDE) approval, a board item will be submitted for contract renewal with SFE for the 2025–2026 school year. Final execution is subject to board approval following MDE authorization. 2025–2026 school year. The contract will be subject to final board approval following MDE authorization.

COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:

This contract shall be for a period of twelve months effective on July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, for an estimated \$2,790,000. This amount includes the cost of all food, supplies, food service and non-aide labor and fringe benefits, a \$18,352 management fee and a \$28,794 administrative fee.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the renewal of the District's Food Service Management Company (FSMC) contract with SFE, following approval by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). MDE approval will be obtained prior to final Board action.

IMPACT IF NOT APPROVED:

The District will be unable to contract food service operations and therefore ineligible to participate in USDA-funded meal programs, impacting student nutrition services and federal reimbursement revenue.

NEXT STEPS IF APPROVED:

Submit the contract renewal documents to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) for review. Upon MDE approval, the Superintendent will execute the final contract.