



NAME: CAROLYN THOMAS
POSITION: CHILD NUTRITION CONSULTANT, MACOMB ISD

NUMBER OF YEARS OF SERVICE IN CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS:

30

INVOLVEMENT WITH SNAM:

I've been a part of the SNAM Board for the past three years and I am the newly elected Vice President of our Association.

FAVORITE SCHOOL LUNCH MEAL:

Chicken fajitas with black bean and corn salsa and a salad.

HOW WERE YOU INTRODUCED TO WORKING IN CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS:

Right after I graduated from college I went to work with Aramark in their School Nutrition programs and have loved child nutrition since then!

DIFFERENT POSITIONS YOU HAVE HAD IN CHILD NUTRITION:

Financial Analyst

Assistant Food Service Director

Food Service Director

District Supervisor

Child Nutrition Consultant

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF THE WORKDAY:

My favorite part is when I am out in our MISD buildings, or out at one of the county school districts food service program. It's a pleasure to see our food service teams in action creating a variety of menu items and serving our students with a smile. I love the difference it makes in a student's school day.

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE THINGS TO DO AWAY FROM THE WORKDAY:

Cooking and baking, walking, and reading ●



NAME: TAMMY TEDESCO
POSITION: CEO, FOUNDER – EDIBLES REX
EMPLOYER: EDIBLES REX

NUMBER OF YEARS OF SERVICE IN FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY/ CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS:

30/17

ARE YOU INVOLVED WITH SNAM

IN ANY POSITION:

Member

FAVORITE SCHOOL LUNCH MEAL:

Our signature items: Pepperoni & mozzarella roll ups; Chicken Shawarma with pita, garlic sauce & rice pilaf

HOW WERE YOU INTRODUCED TO WORKING IN CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS?

17 years ago, several of our corporate catering clients served as board members for the newly emerging Charter Schools in Metro Detroit. They came to Edibles Rex with a need to improve their food service. It was there that we got our start with Child Nutrition Programs. We quickly learned the meal requirements and created scratch recipes that children loved. That year we started with 2,000 meals a day; today we serve 15,000 meals a day. Five years ago we were presented with another challenge that a city summer food service program faced. They wanted to improve the meal quality and increase participation; knowing there were many underserved children in the summer. I brainstormed with my 11 year old son to figure out what children like for cold meals and what would keep them coming back every day. That was how the Rex Lunch Bag was born. We made a colorful lunch bag that appealed to children along with our mascot chef Rex, who teaches children about healthy lifestyle choices. Each lunch bag contains a Rex collectors' card with a joke and a nutritional tip. We now use the bags all year long for lunch, after school programs and field trips. Children love the bags and the cards promote conversation amongst their peers. Last year we received requests from parents and schools who wanted to buy the bags and collector cards for their own use. They are now available in whole sale pack sizes of 250 and retail packs of 10.

DESCRIBE THE DIFFERENT POSITIONS YOU HAVE HAD IN CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS:

I have worked for myself for 25 years. I create menus for all of our daycare and K12 programs. Now we are excited to share our nutritional lunch bag and collectors cards we created as well.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF THE WORKDAY?

Whenever I can work hands-on with food. Visiting our Schools and interacting with the children we serve, encouraging them to try foods that they are not familiar with. ●