



What do you think people often overlook about school nutrition?

People don't realize how good school lunches have become.

What do you look forward to each day at work?

I absolutely love my job and look forward every day to being able to make homemade meals from scratch and see staff and students come through the line with smiles on their faces, truly appreciating what we make for them. Best job in the world!

How have you expanded scratch cooking in your school, and what's your favorite recipe you've created or adapted for the menu?

We have expanded our scratch cooking to include items like spaghetti sauce, chili, homemade sloppy joes, and chicken fajita wraps.

What's the most popular meal on your lunch menu? Do you have a personal favorite, and why?

There are so many favorite meals I have, but my absolute favorites are the homemade soups we make from scratch. Chicken noodle, bacon cheeseburger, tomato dumpling, and tomato basil — they are so satisfying!

How have you been mentored throughout your school nutrition career, and have you had the opportunity to mentor others along the way?

I love the opportunity to mentor our kitchen assistants when they step in to sub and help me cook. I encourage them to one day take on the challenge of becoming a cook themselves.

What do you enjoy most about your current position, and what motivates you to work in school nutrition?

I absolutely love my position as a cook at Foley High School! It is so gratifying to have the privilege of cooking meals from scratch and providing healthy, delicious meals for students and staff. It's a great feeling to hear so many compliments about how good our food is. All of us cooks take pride in making meals from scratch.