

SodexoMAGIC-DCPS
Elementary School Culinary Competition



TO: DCPS Principals and Teachers

FROM: Jeff Toliver
Marketing Manager – SodexoMAGIC – DCPS

DATE: January 2nd, 2020

Hello Everyone,

We're thrilled to announce that this year's Future Chef competition is taking off. This competition is geared towards educating our kids on **HEALTHY EATING HABITS**. Too often we hear about obesity in kids because they are making the wrong choices in terms of their eating habits. That's why we want our DC Public Schools **3rd through 5th Graders** to submit recipes for their **Favorite School Lunch Meal Reimagined!** Final judging (see below) will be based on:

- Originality
- Health-consciousness
- Simple, easy, and kid-friendly preparation
- Plate Presentation
- Student Chef Presentation to Judges
- And of course, Taste

Timeline of what will happen:

1. Teachers will print and send home the attached **letter, flyer** and **recipe card** with students describing the event.
2. Kids in Grades 3 through 5 that want to participate must fill out a **recipe card** and return it back to the school.
3. Recipe cards can also be found on the **Future Chef Poster** in the school cafeteria or administration office.
4. Recipe cards must be collected by teachers and turned back into the **Submission Boxes** in the same locations.
5. Kids will have 3 weeks to submit their recipes.
6. Submission dates are between **January 13th – 31st, 2020**.
7. We will collect the submission boxes from your school on **January 31st, 2020**.
8. A distinguished panel of judges narrow down the submitted recipes to **12 finalists**.
9. The select host school location will be announced along with our chosen finalist on **February 7th, 2020**
10. Those finalists will be formally invited to a Culinary Competition "Cook-Off" on **March 26th, 2020** tentatively scheduled from **4:30-7:00pm**.

All Finalists will receive a framed plaque, a recipe book of all finalist's recipes, a Chef Coat, Apron and Hat.

The Local Press will be invited to take pictures of the kid's creations, and parents & teachers will have an opportunity to view (and taste!) the final products during the reception portion of the event. Transportation for the kids will not be provided on March 26th for the competition. Kids will need to be dropped off/picked up from the host school location.

**SodexoMAGIC-DCPS
Elementary School Culinary Competition**



Each kid will also have a kitchen staff member assigned to them. This will ensure that safe food preparation practices are followed, and no one gets harmed.

As an added bonus, our competition is just one of many local competitions that Sodexo will be orchestrating across the country in March. The winning recipe from each event will be entered to win a national competition in April. Last year's Future Chef winner **Kimberly Lee** from Hearst Elementary School represented DCPS well and made it all the way to the **National Finals** as a Top 5 contender (*see photo below*). More details will follow, but we're lining up some great prizes for those that are chosen to receive national recognition!



Best,

Jeff Toliver

Marketing Manager, DC Public Schools Mid Atlantic Region – SodexoMAGIC

1155 15th St NW, Suite 1101

(c) 202.669.9972

cariol.toliver@sodexomagic.com

www.sodexomagic.com

**HEY
STUDENTS!**

CAN YOU COOK?



Calling all “**FUTURE CHEFS**” for our
CULINARY COMPETITION

**WE’RE LOOKING FOR YOUR FAVORITE
SCHOOL LUNCH MEAL - REIMAGINED!**

12 lucky winners from **DC Public Schools** will be chosen as finalists to compete in our contest on **March 26th, 2020**. As a bonus, the winner of this event will be entered in a Future Chefs National Competition for some great prizes!

**PICK UP YOUR
ENTRY FORM TODAY!**

They’re available in the Cafeteria and in the Main Office! Turn them in to the submission box in your Cafeteria or Main Office by **January 31st, 2020**.



DC Public Schools
Culinary Competition Recipe Entry Form
Favorite School Lunch Meal Reimagined!
Open to all 3rd through 5th graders!

My Name	
My School	
My Grade	
My Teacher's Name	

Return to your Teacher by Friday, January 31st, 2020
(Teachers: Please assure recipes are submitted in the **SodexoMAGIC Future Chef** box located in your Admin Office or School Cafeteria.)

My recipe is called: _____

List all ingredients and exact amounts of the ingredients here:

List the "Method," which is what you will do to prepare your meal here. Use the back of the paper if you need more room.



Tips to be a Finalist in this Year's Culinary Competition

Have your eye on the prize? Here are some tips that may help!

1. **Be original** - You don't have to be like everyone else. Consider putting a new twist on your favorite school lunch meal.
2. **Be creative** - A student once submitted a recipe for "dill cookies!" Sounds terrible, but they were actually great! Don't TRY to be too weird, but we love to see recipes that are different!
3. **Don't do recipes that are too easy or too complicated.**
4. This **doesn't** have to be your own, original recipe. You can get them off the Internet or anywhere but try to alter it slightly to make it your own!
5. SORRY, only **ONE** person can make each recipe at the competition.
6. We are looking for **Your Favorite School Lunch Meal - Reimagined**, so try to avoid recipes with a lot of sugar or fat in them.
7. At the main competition, judges will consider the following 7 criteria:
 - Taste
 - Originality
 - Ease of Preparation
 - Healthy Attributes
 - Kid Appeal
 - Plate Presentation
 - Student Chef Presentation to Judges

Helpful Hint: When you present your recipe, include your name, the title of your recipe, a description of how you made your recipe flavorful, how you made it healthier, and any steps you may have taken to minimize food waste.

The use of one or more of the following ingredients will earn up to **3 bonus points**:

1. Plant Based Proteins (Examples: crumbles, burgers, nuggets)
2. Fish
3. Leafy Greens (Examples: kale, mustard, collard, swiss chard)
4. Dried Fruit
5. Sweet Potato

GOOD LUCK & HAVE FUN!!!!