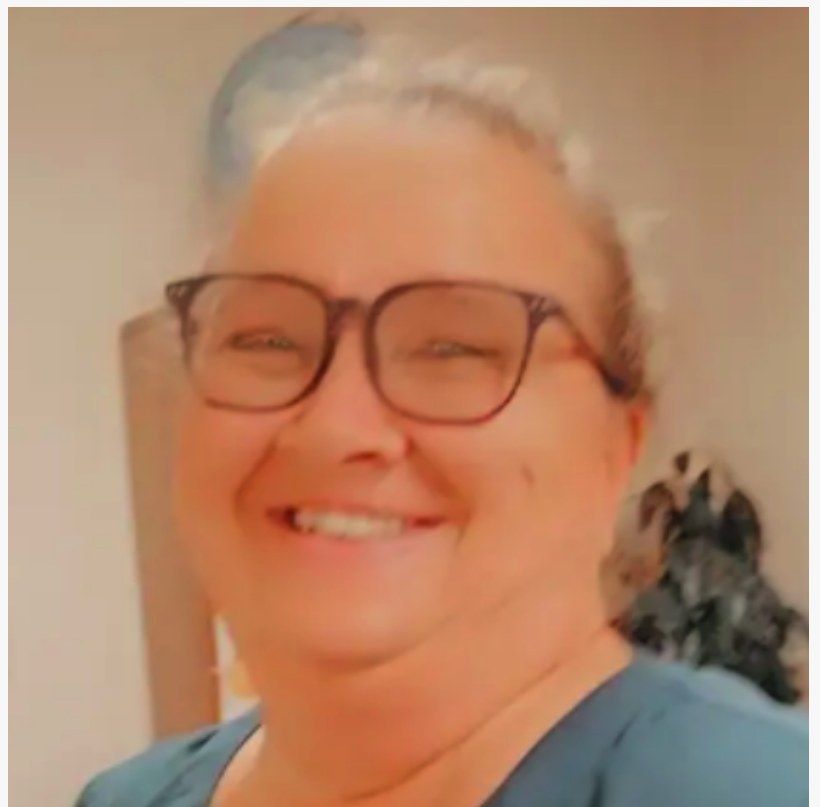


Influential Women: Nutrition leader Renee Swank drives student wellness & equitable access to healthy meals.

NORFOLK, VA, UNITED STATES, June 5, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Advancing Student Health and Academic Success Through Innovative School Nutrition Programs in Norfolk Public Schools

Norfolk, Virginia — Renee Swank is a dedicated advocate for school nutrition with more than two decades of experience promoting healthy eating and wellness for students. She currently serves as the District Supervisor of Special Programs for Norfolk Public Schools, where she leads nutrition initiatives, oversees program implementation, and ensures compliance with district and federal standards. Her work is centered on creating inclusive, accessible, and nutritious meal programs that support student health, learning, and long-term well-being.



Throughout her career, Renee has focused on strengthening school nutrition systems that directly impact student success. In her leadership role, she develops and implements programs designed to improve meal quality, increase accessibility, and ensure that every student has access to balanced, nourishing food during the school day. Her approach combines operational excellence with a deep commitment to student wellness and equity in school food services.

Renee's journey in school nutrition began as a substitute in Chesapeake Public Schools, where she quickly discovered a passion for culinary arts and nutrition. That early experience laid the foundation for a career that would evolve into multiple leadership positions within school nutrition programs. As a School Nutrition Manager, she developed expertise in menu planning, team leadership, and program development, consistently emphasizing both quality and

efficiency in school meal services.

Her academic background reflects her commitment to professional growth and interdisciplinary expertise. Renee holds an Associate's Degree in Culinary Arts with a focus on applied nutrition and a Bachelor's Degree from the Culinary Institute of Virginia. She also earned an Associate's Degree in Business, Management, and Marketing from Tidewater Community College. In 2017, she achieved her Certified Dietary Manager credential, further strengthening her qualifications in nutrition leadership and operational management. In addition, she was selected as part of the inaugural cohort of the Healthy School Food Pathway Fellowship, graduating in 2024.

Renee is widely recognized for her dedication to student wellness, professional development, and leadership within school nutrition. She integrates her culinary expertise with strong organizational management skills to build programs that inspire positive change across school communities. Beyond her technical responsibilities, she is deeply committed to mentoring her team and fostering a collaborative environment where staff feel supported and empowered.

She attributes her success to the unwavering support of her husband and the dedication of her team. According to Renee, their encouragement, collaboration, and shared commitment are essential to achieving meaningful results every day. She emphasizes that strong teamwork and mutual respect are central to sustaining effective school nutrition programs.

Renee also offers guidance to young women entering the field, encouraging them to remain authentic and grounded in their passion for working with children. She believes that genuine care and enthusiasm for student well-being are essential qualities for success in school nutrition and related professions.

The values that guide Renee Swank in both her professional and personal life are honesty and a deep love for the children she serves. These principles shape her leadership approach, her relationships with colleagues, and her daily commitment to ensuring that every student has access to nutritious meals that support their growth, learning, and overall success.

Learn More about Renee Swank:

Through her Influential Women profile: <https://influentialwomen.com/connect/Renee-Swank>

Influential Women

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