



Food Service Update

NEWS

August 2023

For Parents & Students at
Ponder ISD

NEW FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

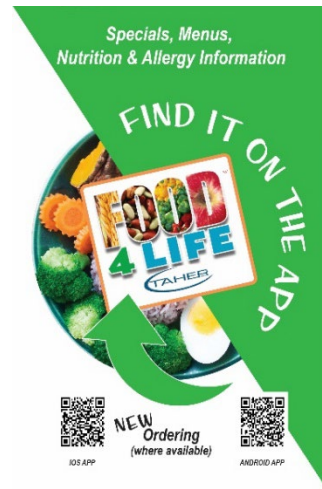
Ponder ISD is excited to partner with Taher, Inc! Taher has been bringing a fresh approach to school dining for over 42 years. **Taher, Inc. welcomes you to the 2023-24 school year and we look forward to seeing you at breakfast and lunch!**



HIGHLIGHTS of the Dining Program include:

BREAKFAST & LUNCH ~ Each day we will offer...

- USDA and TDA Compliant Menus
- Breakfast Selections
- Hot Entrees with sides
- Unlimited Fruits and Vegetable Selection
- Daily Grab-N-Go Specials with composed salads, deli sandwiches, Protein Packs and more
- Extra entrées available for purchase
- Assortment of Ala Carte items available for individual purchase as well!
- **Be sure to check out our Menus on the Food4Life® App or on the Website:**
<https://www.ponderisd.net/domain/14>



TAHER'S CHEF RALPH SANTIAGO



Chef Ralph Santiago is Ponder ISD's new Food Service Director of all Dining Areas. He ensures students and faculties are served with the best food quality following the established guidelines. Attended the Art Institute of Dallas and graduated with a Culinary Arts Degree. He brings 18+ years of experience in the food industry, from fine dining to family-owned restaurants. In his last ten years, he has worked as a Food Service Director in the private sector in the DFW area. Chef Ralph's passion is ensuring anyone who comes to dine experiences excellent quality food.

WHAT WE WILL BRING TO YOU

Taher's Food4Life® menu offerings incorporate the following:

- Chef-developed, made-from-scratch items that are trans-fat free.
- Fruit and vegetable selections, which complement our menu offerings, rotating daily.
- A dedicated and trained staff who focus on customer service, attention to detail and a desire to serve people in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

Per Texas Department of Agriculture regulations, Taher is required to follow the 21-day cycle menu that all vendors had to bid. On September 18th, Taher will be following their cycle menu. They will be interacting with the students to find out their favorite items; these will be incorporated into the menu. The menus will be available on Taher's Food4Life® app or on the Website.

We look forward to greeting you and your family this year. Please feel free to reach out to the Taher Food Service Director at (940) 479-8463 or by email at rsantiago@ponderisd.net.

**The dining program needs the support of students and the entire school community to succeed!
Please support the dining program through your patronage.**