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PRESS RELEASE

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Goodyear Millennium High School Cafe Opening

(October 28, 2020) -- Goodyear's Millennium High School and Western Maricopa Education Center (West-MEC) - a public career technical education district - celebrated the opening of the Tiger's Cove Cafe in Goodyear for Millennium's Culinary Principles Program on Oct. 21 with a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

Tiger's Cove Cafe is a fully-stocked commercial kitchen with eight functioning workstations, several convection ovens and other industry-standard cooking equipment for student use. The students will use the kitchen to practice food preparation and serving techniques as part of their overall education in the program provided through the West-MEC partnership.

"It takes a village to raise these students and our future generation. This kind of partnership over the years is what makes the difference and makes that possible," Agua Fria Union High School District Superintendent, Dennis Runyan said.

Those who complete the Culinary Principles program will be trained and eligible to pursue a job or further education in the culinary arts, providing a chance for economic independence and a fruitful career in the future.

"To the extent that West-MEC is able to support that effort, we are happy and honored to do so," said John Mulcahey, West-MEC Assistant Superintendent for Professional Development and Adult Education.

About West-MEC:

West-MEC is a career technical education public school district that focuses solely on innovative career and technical education (CTE) programs that prepare students to enter the workforce and pursue continuing education. West-MEC CTE programs provide students opportunities to earn college credit and industry credentials. West-MEC serves more than 37,000 students from 48 high schools, across 3,800 square miles in the northern and western cities of the Phoenix Metropolitan area. West-MEC now also offers adult education programs. Visit <u>www.west-mec.edu</u> for more information about West-MEC's career-driven education opportunities or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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