



May 5, 2023

Tom Newton, Principal
Monterey High School
101 Herman Drive
Monterey, CA 93940

Dear Mr. Newton:

I am writing in support of Monterey High School's proposal to develop a new Specialized Secondary Program in Culinary Arts. Monterey County Hospitality Association (MCHA) is in full support of the program, and will help to the extent possible through community and industry leader collaborations.

Monterey County Hospitality Association represents and advocates for more than 20,000 employees of hospitality and related businesses throughout the county. We are a current partner with the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, specifically collaborating with Marina, Seaside, and Central Coast High School as a strategic partner focused on providing employment opportunities to students in their culinary arts programs.

We are excited to be a resource for the new program at Monterey High School, and we are committed to supporting that program and its students as follows:

- Contributing ideas to help develop its innovative program curriculum, including classroom, lab, work-based learning activities.
- Providing guest speakers to make presentations at the school to cohorts of students, which will reach approximately 150 students each year;
- Informing and possibility connecting member businesses with students to visit and observe local hospitality businesses and industry partners;
- Offering employment guidance to students through an annual Hospitality Career Fair, where students have the opportunity to engage with industry experts and business across the county;
- Providing access to internship opportunities via the mcha.net website.

It has been a pleasure working with Marina High School over the past year, and I look forward to helping to create more opportunities for additional culinary students throughout the district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin Horton".

Kristin Horton
Executive Director
Monterey County Hospitality Association
kristin@mcha.net