



EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



RICHARD HILL

PANEL TECHNICIAN,
TABLE DEPARTMENT

Thermo-Kool Panel Technician, Table Department – **Richard Hill** was selected Employee of the Month for the month of March 2026. Richard was nominated by the **Thermo-Kool** Plant Manager, who commented, “He consistently completes assigned work as directed and meets daily production expectations. Richard is dependable, regularly shows up, and performs his duties as required. He is a reliable team player who provides helpful training and guidance to newer employees.” Richard has been with **Thermo-Kool** since April 2023.



CALVIN DEAN

ASSEMBLER,
GASKET DEPARTMENT

Thermo-Kool Assembler, Gasket Department – **Calvin Dean** was selected Employee of the Month for the month of April 2026. Calvin was nominated by **Thermo-Kool** Production Supervisor, **Rodney Miller**, who shared, “Calvin demonstrates a strong work ethic, reliability, and leadership every day. He handles his responsibilities with minimal supervision, takes initiative in coordinating departmental work, and is always willing to help train new employees when needed. His dependability and commitment truly stand out, and he is someone both his team and management can count on.” Rodney also noted Calvin’s outstanding attendance, including perfect attendance over the past seven months. Calvin has been with **Thermo-Kool** since July 2015.

ONE WORD

Every year, our team selects a word to live and work by. This word is displayed in everyone’s respective office as a reminder of our commitment and dedication to make the new year as successful as possible.



Paul Moss
Vice President
Calm

“When faced with trying obstacles in today’s hectic and chaotic world, I will turn to a quiet place of serenity to help clearly navigate my thought process and reaction.”



Tracy Hill
Purchasing Agent
Grace

“Grace is what God gives me, not what I earn—salvation.”



Jermaine Jones
Production Supervisor
On-Course

“This year, my focus is on strengthening my values and becoming more intentional in how I live and work. I plan to stay on-course.”



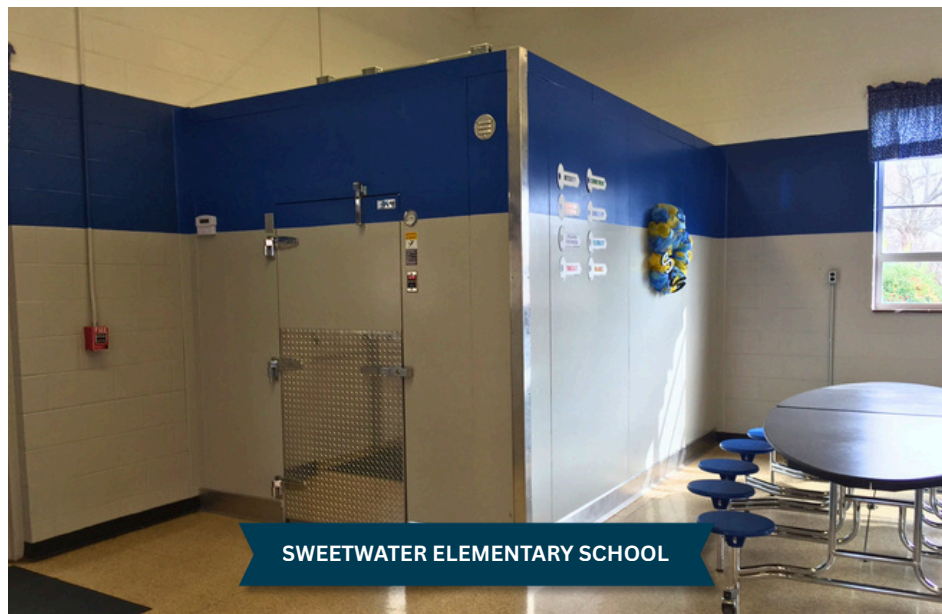
Donnie Carpenter
Manufacturing Support Manager
Purpose

“Whether it’s choosing what I do or how I do it, I want to be more intentional in my decisions and actions.”

KOOL HOUSE ROCK: COLD STORAGE THAT MAKES THE GRADE



By: Lisa Hinton



SWEETWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ask any adult what their school experience was like and you're sure to get a different answer every time. Some remember the glory days of being prom queen, star quarterback, valedictorian, or the pride of the marching band. Others remember their first dance, first kiss, or the first time they sat in detention, being detained from basically everything else they'd rather be doing. ...And some people still turn pale at the mere reminder of their prepubescent past.

No matter which category you fall into, everyone can agree on two favorite school-time memories: recess and lunch. Unlike recess—which is cruelly taken away after elementary school with absolutely no preparation whatsoever, much like summer vacation after high school—lunch is a constant throughout the entire K-12 experience.

Ask anyone about their school lunch memories and the answers usually sound pretty familiar: weirdly cut pizza that was admittedly pretty good, taco Tuesday, tiny cups of ice cream, and the lunch ladies who somehow knew everybody's name despite never sharing a single class with them.

Even today, the lunch bell is a coveted sound that's part freedom and part fresh food. But while everyone remembers the cafeteria itself, nobody really talks about the cold storage working quietly behind the scenes to keep all that food safe, fresh, and ready for the lunch rush.



NEWTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

So, here's to the unsung hero of the school cafeteria, and here's how **Thermo-Kool** goes above and beyond to help schools make the most memorable part of the school day possible.

DURABILITY, NOT JUST ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL

A walk-in is an investment, meaning you want it to last for, and after, the lifetime of that investment. That's why **Thermo-Kool** uses premium metal, eco-friendly foam, and hardnose railing that creates an airtight seal no matter how many times you need to move, reassemble, or add onto your walk-in. We also offer a ten-year panel warranty so schools are covered for the long haul.

INSTALLATION, NO DETENTION FOR DELAYS

There's only so much summer in a year, which means schools don't have time to waste when it comes to ordering and installing foodservice equipment. The last thing school directors need are delays or hidden fees (that's the last thing *anyone* needs). So, we preassemble your walk-in at our factory before disassembling and shipping it. Why? This gives us the opportunity to check panel squareness, make sure camlocks align, and do all last-minute modifications like electrical foamed-in-place conduit drills are taken care of so you and your team don't have to. No surprises on the job site are the best surprises.

SAFETY, A STRAIGHT-A SOLUTION

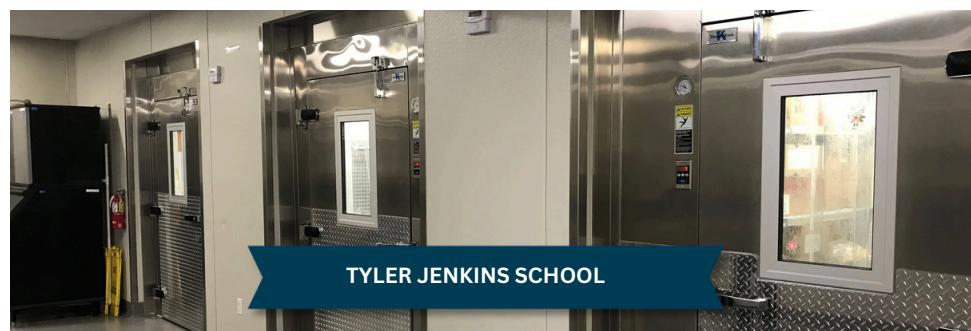
In any kitchen environment, safety for both food and staff is paramount. That's the reason we created our TK4700 monitoring system to take care of both. Our monitoring system allows staff to keep an eye on temperatures, alarms, door status, and motion activity from a single system, helping cafeteria teams stay informed even during the busiest lunch rush. **Thermo-Kool**



walk-ins also include pressure relief systems designed to help doors open properly, along with interior safety releases that help ensure staff can always exit the walk-in if needed. Because when kitchens are already juggling schedules, prep work, and hundreds of hungry students, peace of mind goes a long way.

CUSTOM SOLUTIONS, NO COPYING OFF THE TEST

No two school cafeterias are exactly alike, which is why **Thermo-Kool** specializes in custom-built walk-ins designed around the needs of each facility. Whether it's compact layouts for smaller kitchens, large multi-compartment systems for high-volume campuses, integrated blast chillers, or custom cutouts and shelving configurations, schools have the flexibility to create solutions that work for their staff instead of forcing staff to work around the equipment. After all, when lunch starts in ten minutes, nobody wants to fight their kitchen just to find the tater tots.



TYLER JENKINS SCHOOL

CUSTOMER SERVICE, HELP AFTER THE BELL

Let's face it, problems aren't exclusively between the first and last bell. That's why we offer 24/7 customer service support to help schools get answers when they need them most. Whether it's an installation question, service concern, replacement part, or unexpected issue during a busy week, our team is available to help keep cafeterias running smoothly. When tomorrow's lunch menu depends on today's refrigeration, waiting until "normal business hours" isn't always an option.

So ask anyone in foodservice what the most important feature is in a walk-in, and you'll probably get a different answer every time. Some might say durability. Others might say safety, reliability, or customer support. But no matter the answer, the expectation is always the same: confidence.

Because when it comes down to it, the anticipation of lunchtime runs on knowing the equipment behind the scenes is working exactly as it should. And while most people may never think twice about the cold storage standing solid behind the cafeteria doors, **Thermo-Kool** is proud to help support the moments students remember most of all: the pizza days, the ice cream cups, and the sound of the lunch bell ringing through the hallways.

After all, some school memories deserve to *stay **kool** forever*.

IN THE NEWS

A DAY AT TK WITH OUR INDUSTRY FRIENDS

On April 29, 2026, **Thermo-Kool** had the pleasure of welcoming several foodservice consultants and industry partners from California and Nevada to our Laurel facility for factory training and a behind-the-scenes look at how our walk-ins come together.

Attendees from AMD Foodservice Design, Stafford Design Group, and Muller Design Associates, Inc. spent time touring the factory, learning more about **Thermo-Kool's** custom capabilities, and getting a firsthand look at the craftsmanship and teamwork that go into every project we build. Joining the group was **Thermo-Kool** Representative **Jeff Yates** of Inform Marketing Group.

Other guests included **Tim Stafford** and **Jessica Gahan** of Stafford Design; **Frank Muller** and **Sharon Ching** of Muller Design Associates, Inc.; and **Patrick Jones** of AMD Foodservice Design.

Visits like these are always a great opportunity to build relationships, exchange ideas, and share what makes **Thermo-Kool** special beyond the products themselves. We truly enjoyed spending time with everyone and appreciate them taking the time to visit Laurel and train with our team. We look forward to continuing these partnerships and working together on future projects.



Pictured from left to right: Melissa Harrison, Jessica Gahan, Tim Stafford, Patrick Jones, Rand McLaughlin, Sharon Ching, Frank Muller, and Jeff Yates.

COME VISIT US AT SNA ANC 2026



Thermo-Kool is headed to **Charlotte, North Carolina**, for the **School Nutrition Association's Annual National Conference (ANC) 2026**, taking place **July 12–14**.

This year's theme, *"Power of School Meals,"* highlights the vital role school nutrition programs play in supporting students nationwide. As a trusted provider of walk-in coolers and freezers for K-12 facilities, **Thermo-Kool** is proud to support the professionals who help keep school kitchens running smoothly.

If you'll be attending ANC, stop by **Booth #1645** to meet the team and learn more about the cold storage solutions helping schools stay safe, efficient, and ready to serve the next generation.