

TURTLE TRACKS

THE COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATION SPECIALIST

The people and partnerships behind **the cold.**

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INSTALL SPOTLIGHT · HELOTES, TEXAS

Agriculture Science & Technology Academy

Sandra Day O'Connor High School — a custom three-compartment walk-in

67'7½" × 39'4" × 13'11"

Overall custom walk-in footprint (L × W × H)

3 temperature zones

Meat Processing · Hanging Cooler Storage · Bio Freezer

Helotes, TX

Education Facility

Supporting hands-on learning in agriculture, food production, and meat processing, **Thermo-Kool** provided a large, custom three-compartment walk-in system for the Agriculture Science & Technology Academy (ASTA) at **Sandra Day O'Connor High School in Helotes, Texas**. The system was designed to support the academy's specialized curriculum while giving students access to the type of equipment and environments they may encounter in real-world agricultural and food-processing careers.

Measuring an impressive 67'7½" × 39'4" × 13'11" high, the walk-in combination incorporates dedicated spaces for meat processing, hanging cooler storage, and a bio freezer — giving the program multiple temperature-controlled areas within a single integrated system. Each compartment serves a specific purpose, helping ASTA create a functional learning environment where students gain practical experience with proper product handling, processing, storage, and temperature management.

The facility's size and specialized use required a walk-in designed around how students and instructors would actually use the space. The custom design features multiple offsets and large entrance doors, including trackport openings that accommodate meat rails, enabling efficient product movement throughout the processing and storage areas. These details provide the clearance, accessibility, and functionality the academy needs day-to-day while maximizing available space.

Projects like ASTA show how thoughtfully designed cold storage can support much more than traditional foodservice operations. By building a system around the school's specific educational needs, **Thermo-Kool** helped create an environment where students can build practical skills and gain firsthand experience in agriculture and meat processing.



Insulated exterior entrance



Meat processing cooler



Hanging cooler storage



Utility runs & sanitary vent

Project team — Thermo-Kool Sales Specialist **Allison Ishee** worked on the project alongside **Scott Jost** of Edward Don. Drafting by **Don Wade**, with production design support from **Chris Hendry** — bringing the specialized walk-in from concept through production for ASTA's unique facility and educational goals.



★★★★★

Kasey Brown

Programming Technician Specialist

JULY 2026

Kasey was nominated by her supervisor, who could not say enough about how she has gone above and beyond in her role by willingly stepping in to help in other areas whenever needed. She is always eager to take on new responsibilities and approaches every task with purpose and dedication. In a short period of time, Kasey learned several new tasks and quickly became proficient enough to train a new team member on those same responsibilities. Her willingness to learn, adaptability, and commitment to helping others make her an asset to the team and a deserving choice for Employee of the Month.



★★★★★

Chloe Riddle

Customer Account Representative

AUGUST 2026

Chloe was nominated by her supervisor for assisting Customer Account Reps with working through their backlogs, quoting customers, and providing any additional support requested of them. Her willingness to step in and help has contributed to keeping work moving through the department. She has also been a huge help in covering additional workloads when others are out of the office. Her eagerness to learn, willingness to take on new challenges, and amazing attitude are what set her apart.

ONE WORD

Each year our team chooses a word to live and work by — displayed in every office as a reminder of our shared commitment.

Melissa Harrison
Inside Sales Manager

ALIGNMENT

"In 2026, I will lead with alignment by understanding how sales decisions impact our business, communicating clearly, and making choices that support Thermo-Kool's vision and processes."



Morgan Morris
Chain Account Supervisor

MOXIE

"Tackling life with boldness, resilience, and a fearless attitude — stepping into a new role, taking risks, and staying true to yourself."



Shelby Bunkheila
Customer Service Supervisor

CULTIVATE

"I plan on cultivating development and encouraging growth with my team through specific skill training, guidance, and goals."



Heath Morris
Purchasing Supervisor

GENUINE

"I value honesty, consistency, and being real with people, whether things are going smoothly or there are challenges to work through."





PARTNERSHIP BUILT FOR UPTIME

PARTS, TECHS & UPTIME

The Parts Town and Thermo-Kool leadership teams at the Laurel plant.

Left to right: Lee Thames SVP, Mark Fogarty EVP, Melissa Koerner SR Account Manager Parts Town, Heath Morris Purchasing Supervisor TK, Michelle Glazik Director of Partnerships Parts Town, Shelby Bunkheila Customer Service Supervisor TK.

Parts Town visited Laurel for a plant tour and strategy session focused on one thing: getting the right part into the right hands, faster.

This week, **Thermo-Kool** welcomed **Parts Town** — one of the largest parts distributors in the foodservice equipment industry — to Laurel for a plant tour and a strategy meeting with our leadership team. The visit was a chance to walk the floor together, see how our walk-ins come to life, and talk through the one thing that matters most to the operators who depend on us: keeping equipment up and running.

Much of the conversation centered on service technician support — specifically, how to shorten the distance between a part being needed and a part being installed. From smarter stocking strategy to new AI-powered tools that help techs diagnose issues and close out jobs faster, the shared goal is simple: less time waiting on parts, more time solving problems.

This collaboration is part of a broader, ongoing partnership built around a single priority: minimizing downtime for the customers who count on their walk-ins day in and day out. When a cooler or freezer goes down, every hour matters. Strengthening the network behind our equipment means our customers spend less time waiting and more time doing what they do best.

It's the kind of behind-the-scenes work that rarely makes headlines, but it's exactly what a walk-in is supposed to do: stay quiet, stay cold, and stay out of the way. Thanks to the **Parts Town** team for making the trip, and for sharing our commitment to keeping kitchens running.



Steve Allen
Plant Manager

Thermo-Kool is proud to announce **Steve Allen** as our new Plant Manager. In his role, Steve's responsibilities will include overseeing **Thermo-Kool's** manufacturing operations, ensuring production schedules are met, driving continuous process improvements, maintaining quality and safety standards, and working with department leaders to support employee development and operational excellence.

Steve brings more than 20 years of manufacturing and operations leadership experience, with a proven track record of driving production efficiency, process improvement, safety initiatives, and team development. Prior to joining **Thermo-Kool**, he held leadership roles across a variety of manufacturing environments, overseeing large-scale operations, implementing lean manufacturing strategies, and leading continuous improvement programs. This extensive experience positions him to build upon **Thermo-Kool's** tradition of quality craftsmanship while helping lead the company into its next chapter of growth.

⚙️ Lean Manufacturing

🔄 Process Improvement

🛡️ Quality & Safety

👥 Team Development

🏆 Operational Excellence

"Steve brings a wealth of manufacturing and operational leadership experience to Thermo-Kool, but what has impressed me most is his willingness to share that knowledge to develop those around him and foster a strong team environment. Since joining our company, he has demonstrated a commitment to continuous improvement, collaboration, and excellence that aligns perfectly with our core values. I am confident Steve will have a positive impact not only on our production team, but across the entire organization as we continue building on Thermo-Kool's legacy."

— Rand McLaughlin, President & CEO



Elizabeth McLaughlin, Daughter of Rand McLaughlin, President
Baylor School

Elizabeth McLaughlin is a senior at Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where she transferred after attending West Jones. She serves as captain of her pickleball team and also enjoys tennis, debate, lacrosse, baking, traveling, and reading. Outside of school, her favorites include author Ruta Sepetys, artist Tyler Childers, and spending time in Topsail, North Carolina.



Lauren Moss, Daughter of Paul Moss, Vice President and Comptroller
Belhaven University

Lauren is a senior at Belhaven University in Jackson, Mississippi, double majoring in dance and graphic design.

She is in her fourth year with Belhaven's Golden Girls Dance Squad and is active at First Methodist Church in Laurel. Lauren recently became engaged to Davis Brown, a Mississippi State University senior, with their wedding planned for March 2028.



Raine Harrison, Daughter of Melissa Harrison, Inside Sales Manager
University of Southern Mississippi

Raine Harrison, 23, is a senior at the University of Southern Mississippi, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice with a minor in Security Studies. She is on the President's List every semester and serves as Vice President of Omicron Delta Kappa and a member of the Criminal Justice Student Association.



Jasper Herrington, Son of Danielle Herrington, Payroll
Northeast Jones High School

Jasper Herrington, 18, is a senior at Northeast Jones High School. He plans to attend William Carey University to pursue physical therapy.

Jasper has played baseball for seven years, golf for two years, and football for two years. He ranks #3 in his class with a 4.3 GPA.



Addalee Wade, Daughter of Melissa Wade, Accounts Receivable
Northeast Jones High School

Addalee Wade, 17, is a senior at Northeast Jones High School, graduating with a 3.9+ GPA. She is involved in Diamond Girls, HOSA, NTHS, and Serteens and is completing the Vo-Tech Health Science program while working toward becoming a Phlebotomist. She is completing both her 11th- and 12th-grade years this school year and plans to attend college to pursue a career as a Sonographer.



Cassidy McCray, Daughter of Audreanna McCray, Customer Service Assistant
Laurel High School

Cassidy McCray, 17, is a senior at Laurel High School planning to attend the Medical University of South Carolina to pursue nursing.

She has been a cheerleader for 10 years and has also played softball for 8 years and soccer for 4 years. Cassidy is involved in Beta Club, Student Council, and the Jones Middle College program, and is a Mississippi Scholar.