

School District Child Nutrition Case Study

Restoring Cleanliness and Efficiency in School Cafeteria Dish Machines

At a glance

Culligan's solution resolved a critical issue affecting student health perception, operational efficiency, and maintenance costs. By delivering soft water through a reliable system, Culligan helped the school district restore cleanliness in their cafeterias while reducing labor and expenses.



CHALLENGES



A School District Child Nutrition Director contacted Culligan for an urgent solution to a widespread issue affecting dish machines across multiple school cafeterias. The district had recently purchased brand-new red plastic lunch trays for student meal service. However, after washing in the dish machines, the trays developed a white film, making them appear dirty and worn out despite being brand new.

Key concerns included:

- **Appearance and Sanitation:** The trays looked unclean, raising concerns about hygiene and student health.
- **Urgency:** The issue affected multiple schools and demanded a fast, effective resolution.
- **Labor Burden:** Staff were mandated to hand scrub each tray to remove the film—only for the residue to return when trays were machine-washed again.
- **Increased Costs:** Additional labor and cleaning materials increased operational expenses.

SOLUTIONS



Culligan recommended and implemented the HOT Water Portable Exchange Softener, specifically designed to address hardness in commercial hot water applications.

- **Culligan HOT Water PE Softener:** Provided softened water for the dish machines, eliminating hardness minerals responsible for the white residue buildup.

Superior service with every order.

Every customer is important. And every customer is different. With a partner like Culligan® Commercial, you can expect a water treatment plan as original as you are. And like you and your business, we pride ourselves on supporting our solutions with ongoing expert service.

RESULTS



The results were immediate and impactful:

- **Clear, Clean Trays:** The red trays retained their bright color with no white film after washing.
- **Improved Equipment Performance:** Dish machines benefitted from soft water, helping to preserve booster heating elements and extend equipment life.
- **Chemical Savings:** The schools required less detergent, reducing monthly chemical costs.
- **Operational Efficiency:** No salt was needed for the system, simplifying maintenance and earning praise from district leadership.



THE RESULTS:



Longevity in
Products and
Cleanliness



Improved Water
Quality



Reduced
Chemical Usage



Optimized Water
Usage

THE CULLIGAN ADVANTAGE



1

Industry-Leading Technology

Products with patented technology, designed to outperform the competition.

2

Expert Trained Technicians

In-house, expertly trained service technicians with years of experience with these systems.

3

Certified Quality

Regularly scheduled water quality and system performance checks ensuring water quality meets the EPA, FDA, USDA and state guidelines.

4

The Culligan Guarantee

Trusted name for clear, clean and delicious water that customers depend on, appreciate and even avidly promote due to their overall satisfaction.



For over 80 years, Culligan® has made better water. Our global network, comprised of 800+ dealers and international licensees in over 90 countries, is dedicated to addressing your water-related problems. As a worldwide leader in water treatment, our sales representatives and service technicians are familiar with the local water conditions in your area. Being global and local position us to deliver customized solutions to commercial and industrial water issues that affect your business and your bottom line.