**Department of Food & Nutrition**
October 2026

# SPOTLIGHT

Eating Healthy Every Day!

# Theresa WALTON

Food Service Manager
Norman S. Edelcup/Sunny Isles Beach K-8

M-DCPS
YOUR BEST CHOICE

NORMAN S. EDELCUP SUNNY ISLES BEACH K-8

Ms. Theresa Walton is originally from the beautiful city of Kingston, Jamaica. She always dreamed of coming to America, so she could start a better life for herself and her family. She finally migrated to the United States in August 1990, bringing along her dreams, determination, and a strong desire to build a better future. She enjoys spending moments with her family and friends, taking pictures and traveling during her spare time.

On May 15, 1991, Ms. Walton began her career with The Department of Food & Nutrition at Dr. Robert Ingram Elementary (formerly known as Opa-Locka Elementary School), as a General Worker. She dedicated 16 years to learning, growing, and developing a deep passion for serving students and supporting her team. When she started manager training, she never imagined that she would be taking on such a large responsibility serving as the manager of a brand-new large school. In 2008, she decided to further her education and take the next step in her career. She became the first and only Food Service Manager at Norman S. Edelcup/Sunny Isles Beach K-8.

As a new manager opening a new school, Ms. Walton recalls having butterflies and feeling nervous about the responsibility ahead. She had to adjust her mindset and the menu to cater to the new community she would be serving. However, she faced those fears, believed in herself, and overcame every challenge along the way. She reflects on how she had to build trust with students and staff to make them excited to come to the cafeteria.

Ms. Walton's dedication and commitment to excellence were recognized when she was honored as Manager of the Year in 2019. She was also given the opportunity to serve as a Training Manager, allowing her to share her expansive knowledge, experience, and passion with others entering the Food Service Management profession.

Throughout Ms. Walton’s career, she has always believed in the power of teamwork. Together with her hardworking team, she strives for excellence every day. She understands that the work they do is about more than serving meals—it is about nurturing, supporting, and helping prepare the next generation for success.

The Department of Food and Nutrition is proud to spotlight Ms. Walton and her bubbly personality for her dedication, perseverance, courage, growth, and years of service.
Ms. Walton faces adversities with poise, grace and enthusiasm. She always greets colleagues with a warm smile and comforting hug, which brings inviting energy into the room. She is truly passionate and it shows through the delicious meals that are prepared with love. Even on hard days she continues to have a positive attitude and show up with a smile on her face!

We are positive that Ms. Walton will continue to inspire others and lead with excellence! Ms. Walton, you are appreciated and we are honored to have you on our team!