

## CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release Contact Michael T. Rodriguez (702) 799-5304 May 29, 2012

East versus West – future chefs compete to decide who rules the kitchen Culinary students at four Career and Technical Academies square-off in Jr. Iron Chef competition

LAS VEGAS – On Saturday, June 2, ovens will be warmed and fresh ingredients prepped when the inaugural Jr. Iron Chef competition takes place at The International Culinary School at the Art Institute of Las Vegas. With prizes and summer bragging rights on the line, culinary program students from the East and Southeast Career and Technical Academies will team up to face their contemporaries from the Northwest and Southwest Career and Technical Academies and determine who can make the most delicious and healthy dishes for a team of renowned judges. Food, fun and festivities take place from 10 a.m. – noon. The International Culinary School at the Art Institute of Las Vegas is located at 2350 Corporate Circle, Henderson.

The Jr. Iron Chef competition is presented by the Nevada Beef Council and hosted by Sunny 106.5 personality Tom Chase and Southwest Career and Technical Academy Chef Linda B. The competition will provide students with a unique learning experience that teaches them how to prepare and cook nutritious foods. Highlighting local agriculture and farm-fresh food choices, Jr. Iron Chef will feature lean cuts of beef as the main ingredient, along with other items provided by Whole Foods, including a special mystery ingredient. Meals will be judged on their use of ingredients, taste, texture, presentation, student work habits and more.

Judges for this unique event represent a "who's who" of the culinary industry. The team includes Chef Dave Zino, executive chef and culinary spokesperson for the National Beef Association, Katherine Jacobi, president and CEO of the Nevada Restaurant Association; American Culinary Federation's Chef Raymond Bar of the Art Institute of Las Vegas; Chef Heinz Lauer of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts; and Chef Paul Zdanis of the Bellagio Hotel and Casino. The winning students will receive great prizes provided by the Nevada Beef Council, State Restaurant Equipment Company and Henderson Restaurant Supply. Entertainment will be provided by the Las Vegas Academy Jazz Band, under the direction of Pat Bowen.

For more information about the Clark County School District, as well as the programs offered at Career and Technical Academies, visit www.ccsd.net.

###