

MSNA 2025 Annual Conference | Schedule Outline



All sessions held at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN.

*Schedule subject to change. Check [website](#) for latest updates.

Sunday, August 3	
Registration Open 7:15 – 9:15 AM (SUNDAY REGISTRANTS ONLY)	
2:00 – 5:00 PM (Open to All Registrants, Mayo Civic Center)	
8:00 AM-12:00 PM	ServSafe 4-Hour Renewal Course / ServSafe 8-Hour Course Part 1 (Mayo Civic Center) (Limited Spots Available, Separate Registration Required)
12:30-4:30 PM	ServSafe 8-Hour Course Part 2 & Exam (Mayo Civic Center)
1:00-4:30 PM	SNS Exam (Mayo Civic Center, Separate Registration Required)
4:30-6:00 PM	House of Delegates (Mayo Civic Center)

Monday, August 4 Registration Open 7:00 AM-4:30 PM (Mayo Civic Center)	
7:00-8:15 AM	Breakfast (Mayo Civic Center)
7:00-8:15 AM	First Timer's Session – Ashley Schneider and Emily Malone
8:15-9:15 AM	Sessions Block 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School Nutrition Policy: Legislative Updates & Advocacy Insights – Darcy Steuber & Sam Walseth 2. Emergency Planning in your Kitchen – Jackie DeRoma 3. Two Bite Club – Lori Underdahl 4. What I Wish I Knew when I Became a New Food Service Director 1.0 – Sarah Motl & Danaca Jensen 5. Do I Really Need A Formal Contract With My Distributor? And How Do I Get It Done? – Laura Metzger
9:15-9:30 AM	<i>Break</i>
9:30-10:30 AM	Sessions Block 2 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School Nutrition Solicitation Documents – Aaron Krulc 2. To the Point Kitchen Safety 2.0 – Royal Dahlstrom 3. From Scratch to Smart: Leveraging AI in School Nutrition – Maria Amerman 4. Pushing Beyond the Cafeteria with Farm to School – Jayme Anderson 5. Navigating Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs – Jenna Kiepke, Megan LeClair, & Lexi Reinarts
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Opening Comments, Updates, and Keynote Kathy Parry (Mayo Civic Center)
12:00-1:30 PM	Lunch (Includes Awards Presentation, Mayo Civic Center)
1:30-2:30 PM	Sessions Block 3 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. USDA Donated Foods Diversion Deep Five – Aaron Krulc 2. Let's talk about it: Summary of USDA's Updates to the School Nutrition Standards – Jenna Kiepke, Megan LeClair, & Lexi Reinarts 3. Tired of Training Your Staff by Yourself? Learn How Other Directors Do It. – Jeanine Bowman 4. Building Versatile Speed Scratch Recipes for Busy K12 Kitchens – Susie Berglund 5. To the Point Kitchen Safety 2.0 (Second Offering) – Royal Dahlstrom
2:30-2:45 PM	<i>Break</i>
2:45-3:45 PM	Sessions Block 4 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hot Topics for Directors! A Roundtable Discussion – Michelle Sagedahl 2. Procurement Forecasting – Aaron Krulc 3. Site Manager's Guide to Avoiding Common Review Findings – Noelle Schrankler 4. Professional Standards and Training Guidelines – Cheryl Pick 5. To the Point Kitchen Safety 2.0 (Second Offering) – Royal Dahlstrom
3:45-4:00 PM	<i>Break</i>
4:00-5:00 PM	Sessions Block 5 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Balanced Diet: Nourishing your work and personal life – Ann Lovcik & Alex Gaustad 2. Navigating Dairy: From Added Sugars to Allergies – Haley Miskowiec, RD, LD 3. Maximize your membership with communications & promo tools – Emily Sorensen 4. Deep Dive with Kathy Parry – Kathy Parry

5:00-7:00 PM	Welcome Reception (Mayo Civic Center) <div>   </div>
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Tuesday, August 5 Registration Open 7:00 AM-3:30 PM (Mayo Civic Center)	
Exhibit Show (Mayo Civic Center)	
Food Show	9:15 AM-2:00 PM
Directors Only	9:15-11:15 AM
All Attendees	11:30 AM -2:00 PM
7:00-8:15 AM	Breakfast (Mayo Civic Center)
7:15-8:30 AM	Elite Member/Director Breakfast (Location TBD)
8:00-9:00 AM	Sessions Block 6 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I Am Safe: Mind-Body Practices for Stress-Management – Chris Mignogna 2. Navigating the New Meal Pattern Requirements: Strategies for Success Within the Cafeteria and Beyond – Gail Anderson & Jenna Kiepke 3. Commodity Connections: A Roundtable on Maximizing USDA Foods in School Nutrition – Tony Rank & Allison Loomis 4. Procurement Power: Ace the USDA Child Nutrition Programs Procurement Review – Austin Bork 5. Food Safety Fundamentals – Michelle Hill
9:00-9:15 AM	<i>Break</i>
9:15-10:15 AM	Sessions Block 7 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From Science Fiction to School Kitchens: The Power of AI in Food Service – Chris Kamarianakis 2. I Am Safe: Mind-Body Practices for Stress-Management (Second Offering) – Chris Mignogna 3. Food Safety Fundamentals (Second Offering) – Michelle Hill 4. PERA: From Hire to Retire – Stacy Martin
10:15-10:30 AM	<i>Break</i>
10:30-11:30 AM	Sessions Block 8 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget-Friendly Plant-Based Proteins for School Meals – Jodi Miller Gruhn 2. Allergen Management for School Nutrition – Michelle Hill 3. From Science Fiction to School Kitchens: The Power of AI in Food Service (Second Offering) – Chris Kamarianakis 4. PERA: From Hire to Retire (Second Offering) – Stacy Martin
11:30-2:00 PM	Exhibit Show (see hours above)
3:15-4:30 PM	Nutrition Champions Challenge – Ashley Schneider
4:00-5:00/6:00 PM	Offsite Tours <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hidden Streams Farm 2. Bishop Elementary Kitchen

Wednesday, August 6 Registration Open 7:00 AM-12:00 PM (Mayo Civic Center)	
7:00-7:45 AM	Wellness Walk Led by Experience Rochester (Mayo Civic Center)
7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast (Mayo Civic Center)
8:00-9:00 AM	Sessions Block 9 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Myth Busting Farm to School and Creative Solutions on how to navigate it Successfully – Sara George, Carrie Frank, and Jayme Anderson 2. Eating With Your Eyes- Promoting Your Program Through Food Photography – Laura Wacker-Hansen 3. Offer Versus Serve – Nicole Barron
9:00-9:15 AM	<i>Break</i>
9:15-10:15 AM	Sessions Block 10 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maximize Commodities and Reduce Food Waste Using New Tools and Resources – Megan Flynn, MPH, RD 2. What I Wish I Knew when I Became a New Food Service Director 2.0 – Sarah Motl 3. Cheese Essentials: From Basics to Culinary Excellence – Maggie Maggio 4. Cultivate Collaboration and Innovation in your Future – Sue Malesa & Jennifer Walters 5. Offer Versus Serve (Second Offering) – Nicole Barron
10:15-10:30 AM	<i>Break</i>
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Closing General Session- Ray McElroy & Scholarship Fund Raffle Final Drawing & Pick-Up (Mayo Civic Center)