

# 2023 IN REVIEW



## Membership

- As of December 2023: 2,676 members
  - 1,402 are school district owned (SDM) memberships. MN is in the top 10 SDM states.

## Year-in-Review:

- January 12-13: Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) conference, Minneapolis
- January and February: Darcy Stueber, MSNA Public Policy Chair, and others testify to the MN Legislature for the passage of MN Free Meals for All, signed into law by Governor Walz on March 17.
  - Congratulations to the advocacy efforts of MSNA and the Public Policy & Legislative Committee, led by chair Darcy Stueber. Thanks to all members who contacted legislators and helped raise awareness throughout the process.
- February 21: Day at the Capitol
- March 5-7: SNA Legislative Action Conference, Washington D.C.
  - MSNA was able to meet with representatives of all Minnesota's Congressional Districts and the state's two Senators.
- March 6-10: National School Breakfast Week
  - Theme: *Dig in to School Breakfast*
- April 27-29: SNA National Leadership Conference in Louisville, KY
  - MSNA President-elect Michele Hawkinson spoke on a panel for "Championing Advocacy Efforts on the State Level."
- Spring: SNA and MSNA Award Winners Announced
  - Congratulations Natalie Sagdalen, White Bear Lake, Hero Award; Skyview Middle School, ISD 622, Hero Site Award; Deb Vera, Columbia Heights, Kitchen Manager of the Year; and Mackenzie Herbst, Foley Schools, Employee of the Year
- May: MSNA Member Jess Peña, Red Wing Public Schools, appointed to the School Nutrition Association's PPL Committee beginning August.
- May 5: School Lunch Hero Day
- May 10-12: Minnesota Association of School Business Officials (MASBO) Conference, Duluth, MN
- June: Election Results Posted. Congratulations to Glen Ritter, St. Michael-Albertville School District on joining MSNA's Executive Board as Vice President, and to Amy Kimmel, Spring Lake Park Schools on joining MSNA's Leadership Development Committee.
- July 9-11: SNA Annual Conference in Denver, CO
  - Congratulations to Cheryl Pick for receiving School Nutrition Association's "President's Award of Service in honor of Thelma Flanagan. MSNA also was recognized for increasing its membership goal by 2%.

- August 6-9: MSNA Annual Conference in St. Cloud, MN
  - Over 650 attendees participated, 150 first-timers
  - 130+ companies exhibited at the food show
  - MSNA 2023-2024 board installed nine new members
- September 21: *Socialize at the Saints* Industry-Nutrition Networking Event, CHS Field, St. Paul, MN
- October: Farm-to-School Month
- October 9-13: National School Lunch Week
  - Theme: *Level Up with School Lunch*
- October 26-27: MSNA Board Retreat, Mankato, MN
- November 8-10: School Nutrition and Industry Partner (SNIP) Conference, Breezy Point, MN
  - Over 100 attendees were welcomed, including 20+ first-timers
- December: Happy Holidays!