



## In the Spotlight! ✨ Learn About Stephanie

Welcome to MSNA's February member spotlight! We're excited to feature Stephanie Champeau, Cook at Fridley High School. [Learn about Stephanie's involvement with MSNA and get to know her.](#)

A graphic with a light green background. On the left, a white rounded rectangle contains the text: 'Meet the Member' in red script, 'STEPHANIE CHAMPEAU' in bold black, 'COOK' in black, 'FRIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL' in bold black, and 'FRIDLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS' in bold red. Below this is a quote: 'My favorite thing is the students. I enjoy getting to know their names and seeing them smile when I'm serving one of their favorite meals'. On the right is a photo of Stephanie Champeau, a woman with a pink headband and a white apron, smiling in a kitchen. A small MSNA logo is in the bottom right corner of the graphic.

## Fueling Health & Purpose:

### The Impact of School Nutrition on Body, Mind, and Soul

Did you know that working in school nutrition comes with hidden health benefits? In this insightful piece, Julie Kronabetter, MSNA Nutrition Chair, explores how school food service employees are uniquely positioned to maintain a balanced and healthy lifestyle, both physically and mentally. From enjoying well-balanced school meals to engaging in an active work environment, school nutrition professionals experience firsthand the power of good nutrition and purposeful work. Read on to discover how



school meals not only nourish students but also support the well-being of those who serve them.

[Learn About the Hidden Health Benefits](#)



## Last Chance to Nominate School Nutrition Heroes

Nominations for the SNA and MSNA awards are being accepted online through **this Saturday, March 1**. Submit your award-winning nomination(s) for:

- SNA Employee of the Year
- SNA Manager of the Year
- SNA Director of the Year
- MSNA Hero Site Award (team award)
- MSNA Hero Award *\*It's even easier to nominate with our updated requirements!\**

[Learn More and Apply](#)

## Call for Speaker Proposals are Open



Do you have a topic of interest or expertise that you're eager to share? Now is the perfect time to submit your proposal and share with others who may be interested in presenting!

MSNA strives to feature a diversity of topics and perspectives. View the list of suggested topics [here](#).

[Submit a Proposal](#)

## Advocate for Minnesota K12 Lunch Programs



Join other Minnesota school nutrition professionals as we advocate for school nutrition programs with our state legislators.

MSNA's Day at the Capitol event will be held on Tuesday, March 4 from 2:00 - 4:30 PM at the Minnesota State Capitol. This is a members-only event and the fee to attend is \$30. Register by clicking the button below.

[Register for Day at the Capitol](#)

## Next up in the MSNA Webinar Series...



Join us on March 12th at 3:00 PM for "How Do You Bring Value to the Workplace?" with Lori Adkins, MS, SNS, CHE, Child Nutrition Consultant at Oakland Schools, Waterford, Michigan. In this 1-hour training, participants will explore frameworks and tools they can employ to be more effective at communicating who they are and the value they bring to their organization.

[Learn More & Register](#)

## Planting Seeds for Success: Grow your Farm to School Program!



The Minnesota Farm to School Institute is a team-based, year-long professional learning opportunity for schools to develop skills and action plans for growing their Farm to School program. Selected teams will participate in a three-day, immersive experience in June 2025 and receive one-on-one coaching throughout the 2025-2026 school year.

School team [applications](#) are now open! The deadline to apply is **Friday, February 28th**. For more information on the Institute, [visit here](#). The Institute is coordinated by the Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota Extension with funding from the United States Department of Agriculture and Shelburne Farms.

## Read the USDA Secretary of Agriculture's Letter



*"Dear State, Tribal, Territory, and Local Government Partners,*

*First, thank you for your tireless work serving our most vulnerable families and communities. The scale and scope of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA, Department) 16 nutrition programs is vast, and their mission, critical. However, each of these programs is funded by the generosity of the American taxpayer; men and women who expect programs across every federal agency to be executed with integrity and accountability..."*

[Click here to read the entire letter](#)

# INDUSTRY SPONSORSHIP



## New opportunities for 2025!

### SUPPORT OUR UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EVENT!



## MSNA Members in the News



*February 4*

Three Minnesota school nutrition professionals were accepted into the Chef Ann Foundation *2025 Healthy School Food Pathway Fellowship* Cohort. Congratulations to Claire Nielsen (Wayzata Public Schools), Courtney Chapman (Minneapolis Public Schools), and Kevin Trierweiler (Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Schools)!

[Learn More Here](#)

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## Upcoming Events

**March 3-7:** [National School Breakfast Week](#)

**March 4:** MSNA's [Day at the Capitol](#), Minnesota State Capitol, St. Paul, MN

**March 9-11:** SNA's [Legislative Action Conference](#), Washington, D.C.

**March 12:** MSNA Webinar: [How Do You Bring Value to the Workplace?](#)

[See the Full Events Calendar Here](#)

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