



In the Spotlight! 🌟 Learn About Brenda

Welcome to MSNA's March member spotlight! We're excited to feature Brenda Johnson, Manager at Eastern Carver County Schools. [Learn about Brenda's involvement with MSNA and what she enjoys about her role!](#)

Meet the Member

BRENDA JOHNSON
FLOATING MANAGER

**EASTERN CARVER
COUNTY SCHOOLS**

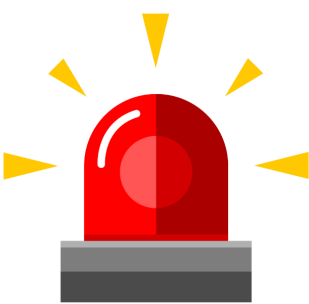
*"My motto has always
been 'Make it Work!'
When situations arise,
I find a way to make
things work as a team
and do my best not to
let struggles take over"*



Beware of Unauthorized Lodging Emails ⚠️

We want to alert you to unauthorized emails circulating from Reservation@TheExhibitsBooking.com, marketing@RealTravelBooking.com, and potentially other senders regarding lodging for the MSNA Annual Conference. These emails are not affiliated with MSNA and are scam attempts. Please do not engage with these senders or provide any personal or payment information.

MSNA will release official hotel block details in May, and all lodging information will be communicated directly by MSNA through our official channels.



Fight Youth Hunger in Mankato & Have Some Fun (For Free)! 💪



Join MSNA on April 9th for a packing session serving Feeding Our Communities Partner (FOCF) in North Mankato. FOCF can accommodate up to 45 volunteers. Join us afterward for happy hour at Pub 500!

Plenty of space is still available! This event is MSNA members only, and the cost is free. Thank you to Cambro for supporting the following happy hour.

Let's Volunteer!

CAMBRO

New Website Feature Industry Member Directory

Interested in learning about our industry members and their offerings? Navigate to the MSNA website Industry Directory webpage to check out important industry member details, including website, address, company descriptions, and more! Use the [Directory Search page](#) to filter by name, categories, and more! Industry members are working to update their information to help you navigate the industry!



Speaker Proposals
due March 31 🗣️

Next in the MSNA
Webinar Series... 💻

It's Your Moment:
Attend ANC! 📅 July 17



Be part of the future of school nutrition by presenting at the Annual Conference on August 3-6 in Rochester! Whether you're a first-time speaker or a seasoned pro, this is your opportunity to make an impact and help shape the future of school meals.

View the list of suggested topics [here](#) and make your submission by March 31 at 11:59 PM, CT.



Leading with empathy and high emotional intelligence can help grow leadership skills and relationships within a team. This 1-hour training explores emotional intelligence and how it impacts and informs leadership abilities.

Join us April 8 at 3:00 PM with Sandy Voss, RD, SNS, Director of Food & Nutrition Services for Arlington Heights School District 25



Registration for SNA's Annual Conference in San Antonio, TX, is open! With 120+ education sessions, 300+ exhibitors and thousands of enthusiastic attendees, ANC25 is your moment to learn, connect and grow like never before.

Learn about the keynotes, who will be performing at the closing event, and more!

[Learn About & Register](#)

New Opportunities Available at Your Fingertips 🍎



Did you know MSNA has a job board/ This is a space for both MSNA school nutrition and industry members to post their available jobs at their respective district/companies.

Both members and non-members can [view jobs posted here](#). MSNA will register your submission and post within 48 business hours.

Take Action! #ProtectSchoolMeals



The House Ways and Means Committee [proposed](#) some alarming changes to school meal programs that would reduce student access to vital nutrition and increase costly paperwork and administrative burden for schools. [Send a message to congress](#) to protect access to nutritious school meals!

Elevate your Visibility and Support Upcoming Events 🤝

Sponsorships present unique opportunities for industry members to play a crucial role in convening professionals for valuable information-sharing, creating meaningful opportunities to position members (including you!) for success. Sponsorships are available to paid members and support aspects of the Annual Conference, SNIP Conference, and other events throughout the year. [View the sponsorship opportunities](#).

2025

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



MSNA Members in the News



March 5

Could the new administration stop free school lunches? Jess Peña, MSNA Secretary/Treasurer and School Nutrition Director for Red Wing Public Schools, was featured on WCCO News' podcast to discuss school meals and implications of funding changes.

[Listen to the Podcast](#)

March 6

Funding for school lunch programs is uncertain as House Republican leaders are considering major spending cuts. Zumbrota-Mazeppa School's Food and Nutrition Director, Brenton Lexvold, was interviewed by [KIMT News 3](#) as well as [KTTC News](#) on the impact this would hold for school programs.



March 7

MSNA Secretary/Treasurer and School Nutrition Director for Red Wing Public Schools, Jess Peña, was featured on FOX9 News discussing the importance of school breakfast during National School Breakfast Week.



[Watch the Interview](#)

Upcoming Events

April 8: MSNA Webinar: [The Power of Emotional Intelligence](#)

April 9: [Service Project](#) with FOCP, North Mankato

April 13-16: [American Commodity Distribution Association \(ACDA\)](#). New Orleans, LA

April 14-18: [National Child Nutrition Conference](#), Dallas, TX

April 24-26: [SNA's National Leadership Conference \(NLC\)](#), Columbus, OH

May 2: [School Lunch Hero Day](#)

[See the Full Events Calendar Here](#)



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