



In the Spotlight! 🌟 Learn About Diana

Welcome to MSNA's newest member spotlight! We're featuring Diana Gorecki, Cook at Foley Schools. Learn what Diana loves about her role in school nutrition.



We Know There Are More Heroes Out There MSNA Award Nominations Due Sunday! 📅



At this time, we've received just one nomination for the MSNA Hero Site Award and MSNA Hero Award. We know outstanding teams and individuals across Minnesota are doing meaningful work every day, and we'd love to see that excellence represented.

If someone in your district stands out for their leadership, heart, or innovation, please take a few minutes to submit a nomination before the **deadline of Sunday, March 1 at 11:59 PM, CT.**

[Recognize a Hero Today](#)

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NEWS

Mark Your Calendars for the 2026 Annual Conference! 🎉



Join us for MSNA's 69th Annual Conference on August 2-5, 2026 at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, MN. The conference theme is "One in a Melon: Celebrating Skills, Sharing Successes & Learning Together."

The Call for Presentation Proposals is open (see below)! Conference registration and hotel reservations will open this spring. In the meantime, [start planning your trip](#) to St. Cloud!

Inspire Professionals & Help Shape the Future The Call for Presentation Proposals is Open 🚀



This is your chance to present at the 2026 Annual Conference! MSNA is accepting proposals for 60-minute educational sessions on a diversity of topics and perspectives. We're talking scratch cooking, procurement, commodities, leadership, AI, menu planning, and much more.

Submitters are strongly encouraged to review the [list of preferred topics](#), curated from 2025 survey feedback. Have a great session idea? [Submit your proposal](#) by **March 31.**

Meet Your 2026 Scholarship Winners 🏆



Congratulations to Kristi Frank, Victor Gilmore, Ruth Lacina, and Claire Nielsen, all who were awarded scholarships to attend 2026 MSNA or SNA conferences. Kristi and Claire will be attending the SNA Annual National Conference (ANC) in July. Victor will be attending the MSNA Annual Conference in August, and Ruth will be attending the SNIP Conference in October.

Thank you for your donations to the 2025 Annual Conference scholarship raffle - your generosity makes these awards and opportunities possible for our members.

Don't Miss These Upcoming Events 📅

MSNA's Day at the Capitol 🏛️



This April, your presence matters. Join us April 13 from 1:30 - 4:00 pm at the Minnesota State Capitol to show legislators the importance of school meals and talk about the realities of feeding students. A full room tells legislators this work is important, and demonstrates unity and impact.

Even if you can't attend, your outreach is impactful. Please take time to locate your legislator and send a quick invitation you can easily copy and paste from our [Info Sheet](#).

The event fee has been reduced from \$30 to \$10 to ensure all members have the opportunity to attend this important event. Thank you to Capitol Hill Associates for supporting the event.

[Be Seen at the Capitol](#)

Discover New Menu Trends 🍴



With new generations come new challenges, new opportunities, and with that: new food trends! Join us Tuesday, March 10 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm for our next edition of the MSNA Webinar Series: *Beyond the Kids Menu: The New Rules of Eating for Gen Z and Gen Alpha* by Taylor Heitzinger, RD LD CD, of Upper Lakes Foods.

You'll leave this session confident in recognizing new emerging food trends and ready to begin aligning your menu to Gen Z and/or Gen Alpha food preferences.

The price is free for members and \$10.00 for non-members. Please share with your staff members!

[Gain Confidence in Menu Trends](#)

Ready for NSBW26? Promote Your Meals in Style 🍷

Share your beautiful school meals with easy [plug-and-play Canva templates](#), branded for National School Breakfast Week! Our helpful [Communications Resources page](#) offers ready-to-use tools like social media graphics, talking points, and quick promotional tips to help you showcase the value of school meals and membership with ease.



Don't Miss an Event: Bookmark the MSNA Calendar 📅

Upcoming Events	
Mon Mar 2, 2026	National School Breakfast Week Category: Events
Sun Mar 8, 2026	SNA's Legislative Action Conference (LAC) Category: Events
Tue Mar 10, 2026	MSNA Webinar: Beyond the Kids Menu: The New Rules of Eating for Gen Z and Gen Alpha Category: Events
Mon Apr 13, 2026	National Child Nutrition Conference Category: Events
Mon Apr 13, 2026	MSNA's Day at the Capitol Category: Events
View Full Calendar	

Explore SNA's Trainings from Your Home or Office 🏠



Earn CEUs in the comfort of your office or home! SNA offers dozens of on-demand webinars featuring leading speakers and educators in the field.

Learn everything from menu planning, marketing, advocacy and team building and be able to immediately bring fresh ideas to your programs and careers.

[Start exploring the offerings here.](#)



Member in the News 📰



Congratulations to Brianna Caverzagie, Nutrition Services Specialist at White Bear Lake Area Schools, on being selected for the 2026 School Nutrition Association Executive Leadership Program in partnership with the Georgetown McDonough School of Business.

This is a tremendous opportunity to enhance professional development and contribute to the success of school nutrition programs. Congratulations, Brianna!

Upcoming Events 📅

- March 2-6:** National School Breakfast Week
 - March 8-10:** SNA's Legislative Action Conference | Washington D.C.
 - March 10:** MSNA Webinar: *Beyond the Kids Menu: The New Rules of Eating for Gen Z and Gen Alpha*
 - April 13:** MSNA's Day at the Capitol | Minnesota State Capitol | [Registration is Open](#)
- [See the Full Events Calendar Here](#)

Past Event Photos 📸

February 19: MSNA Volunteer Event | [View the Event Photos](#)

