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MSNA Elections

The Leadership Development Committee has conducted the search for the open positions on the Executive Board and Leadership Development committee. The committee lead by Immediate past president, Wendy Knight, Ali Diley, Owatonna, Sherri Knutson, Rochester, Jess Pena, Mounds View and Jennifer Walters, Winona. They have prepared the 2019 slate of officers for the election to be held May 1-15, 2019

MSNA will be conducting the online voting via Survey Monkey and a link will be emailed to all members with a current/valid email. If you do not have an email address, you will be able find the voting link on the MSNA website under events. All members will need their SNA member ID to vote.

RULES

- To be eligible to vote you must be a member in good standing as of April 30, 2019
- You must enter a valid SNA ID number to be qualified to vote.
- You may only vote once

Voting will be conducted May 1st through May 15th.

To update your email address and contact information log into [SNA](#) and go to your member record.

MSNA 2019 Election Ballot

The open elected positions are for Vice President, Nutrition Chair and one elected spot on the Leadership Development Committee.

Let's Meet The Candidates

Vice President



Carrie Frank

Carrie is in her thirteenth year as Food Nutrition Director of Dover-Eyota Public Schools located in Eyota, MN, east of Rochester, MN. After receiving her education in Restaurant and Hotel Cookery, she began her career in restaurants and health care, but, found her passion in school nutrition.

Carrie has been a SNA/MSNA member for over 12 years and holds a SNA Level 4 certificate. She has served as MSNA Chapter President, Chapter Liaison and on the Annual Conference Committee. She has attended numerous State and National conferences. She serves on the SNP Advisory Team and is a participant of the ICN, (Institute of Child Nutrition) research study.

Carrie brought the Farm to School (F2S) initiative to Dover-Eyota schools, and is F2S advocate. She has presented on the benefits of F2S at meetings and conferences, including the MSNA Annual State Conference, and the National Farm to School Conference. She recently gave her testimony (sharing the school/food service perspective) at the MN State Capital to the House on the Farm to School & Early Care bill.

She fully understands the requirements of the position, and is poised to undertake the responsibilities of Vice President, representing MSNA members state-wide. Carrie truly believes in the quote by John C. Maxwell: "If I want to do something GOOD, I can do it on my own. If I want to do something GREAT, I'm going to have to develop a TEAM."

Being part of the MSNA "TEAM" as Vice President, representing MSNA members would be a joy and a "GREAT" honor.

Nutrition Chair



Marie Carroll

Marie Carroll is the Nutrition Services Coordinator for North St Paul- Maplewood-Oakdale school district. She has been in school nutrition for over 15 years and holds a SNA Level 4 certificate. Marie has attended many national and MSNA conferences and participates in her local chapter. She is excited to run for the position of Nutrition Chair for MSNA. She is running for Nutrition Chair to meet the educational and training needs of our members



Faith Ford

Faith Ford is the Chef Supervisor for Anoka-Hennepin ISD#11. She has managed complex projects in various environments within the food and beverage industry including c-store, schools K-12, retail channels, and foodservice. She holds a SNA Level 4 Certificate, has been a Chapter Co-President (2016-2017), (2017-2018) and Annual Conference and Workshop Committee (2017). Faith believes nutrition and food go hand-in-hand. Being part of an association is where we make thoughtful, long-term differences through influence, drive and providing sound choices to eat healthy foods. She will bring her passion to help make a difference by listening to your needs, thoughtful team planning, training opportunities that work for all skill set, and motivation.

Leadership Development Committee

Erin George has worked in child nutrition for 14 years in various roles—working her way up from a short hour Nutrition Service Assistant to Supervisor at one of the largest high schools in St. Paul. She continues to be committed, dedicated, and passionate about feeding children’s bodies and minds as they are our future. Helping others through teachable moments, coaching, leading by example, and loving what you do creates leaders—

not a title. She looks forward to working with you and for you on the MSNA Leadership Development Committee.

Connie Johnson is the Food Service Production Manager at Hutchinson Public Schools and is completing her 19th year in school food service having worked in both Hutchinson and Litchfield public schools.

Connie has recently served on the MSNA Annual Conference committee as exhibit hall co-chair and is exhibit hall chair for the upcoming 2019 Annual conference in St Cloud. She is allowing her name to be placed on the ballot for Leadership Development Committee because she

believes it is vitality important to give back to the association for all she has received personally and professionally since becoming a MSNA member.



Connie Johnson

Michele Hawkinson is the Food Service Director for the Tracy Area School District. She started her career in School Food Service as a cook/manager at the Heron Lake/Okabana School District and Worthington School District as Food Service Director. She has been the Chapter 2 president and currently co-president and enjoys working with the chapter. She loves what she does and always go to the Minnesota-

ta conference. She believes running for the open position for Leadership Development Committee would be a good start to getting more involved on a state level.

Andrea Schaak is the Nutrition Director for Jordan Public Schools. She previously worked as a cook manager in Easter Carver County. She is finishing up her master’s program in Organizational Leadership. Andrea would work at identifying other great leaders that we have in our state and encouraging them to be a part of Minnesota School Nutrition Association. She is excited to be placed on the election ballot for the Leadership Development and hopes to help develop others to become great leaders for today and for the future of MSNA.



Andrea Schaak

President's Message



Amy Thering, MSNA President

Greetings hearty Minnesota members!

We were surely tested this past winter, I hope you all dug out, warmed up, dried up and now realize it's finally April and we survived the Polar Vortex of 2019!

Give yourselves a warm hug.



MSNA also "plowed on" and has been hard at work for you! As of March 2019 MSNA has had some great success with membership, here is a quick summary:

- 3,042 members!
- 31 new members and 55 more than Feb 2019, 2% more!
- 37% (1,111) are district-owned, Minnesota ranks 9th in the nation!
- Minnesota ranks #8 in state membership growth!
- 77% (2,328) hold certificates!

Way to go Minnesota to keep our membership strong and growing! We are so glad that our members see value in becoming (and continuing to be!) a member and being certified at either Level 1, 2, 3 or 4. If you have questions on the 4 certificate levels and the recent changes effective July 2018, visit the MSNA website at <https://www.mnsna.org/for-you/certificate-program>.

I attended SNA's Legislative Action Conference in Washington, DC in February. It is a great reminder of where our policies originate and how important it is for us to connect with (and educate!) our legislators. Minnesota had over 30 school district and industry representatives attending and we were able to get appointments with 9 out of our 10 total legislators.



The MSNA Legislative Conference was Monday, March 25, 2019. We collaborated with the School Nutrition Directors of Minnesota to have the MSNA event from 4 – 6pm at the Capitol after their meeting during the day. Over 50 attendees and great conversations with state legislators; they loved the food that was served from different districts!



Amy Thering, Annette O'Toole

We are grateful to Second Harvest Heartland for our partnership in sponsoring the Breakfast After the Bell Legislation (HF1037, SF1237) that is progressing through the legislature. Second Harvest Heartlands' new CEO, Annette O'Toole, attended the Legislative event and is a huge MSNA supporter!



Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.™

Our Marketing Committee and CJ Public Relations have been hard at work pushing out all of our news and events on Facebook! We now have over 864 (!) Facebook followers checking in, liking and sharing! If you have any of the following types of things to share, please send them to minnsna@gmail.com so we can get them posted, we love promoting the good things you are all doing!

1. Scheduled events held in school cafeterias, gardens, kitchens, etc.
2. MSNA Chapter meetings, meeting dates, nutrition events, training sessions, culinary demonstrations, skills classes, conference information
3. School nutrition or nutrition education news relating to Minnesota specifically
4. Collaborations between school districts and local food or nutrition organizations, i.e. food pantries, farmers markets
5. Recipes shared from district kitchens, i.e. scratch cooking or taste tests
6. Photos of:
 - Students with breakfast and/or lunch trays, grab and go stations, salad bars, serving lines, cafeteria decorations, mobile food trucks/buses
 - MSNA Chapter meetings and events

Looking forward to another great SNIP conference, May 2-3, 2019! This year we are trying a new venue, Madden's Resort in Brainerd. This is a great networking conference for directors and industry members so please join us, registration is now available online on the [MSNA event page!](#)

Reminder Annual Conference dates are August 4 – 7, 2019 in St. Cloud. Registration information will be sent soon and hotel room blocks will open up for reservations May 1st. There are so many great workshops planned and some fun activities for everyone! It is the other "Great Minnesota Get Together" and I hope you plan to attend to reconnect with fellow members, learn some new things, network and have fun.

As another school year starts wrapping up, I hope you can use the spring and summer months to enjoy the outdoors, our many lakes, events and some warm weather!

Amy Thering

President Elect

Hello Members:

As President Elect, I would like to share my Washington D.C. experience with you.

I was not much of a political person at all, but now I think I understand it all a bit better. As part of my board responsibility, I was to attend the SNA's Legislative Annual Conference, and I had no idea what to expect. I left on my three-day journey and was a bit nervous and excited at the same time. My first two days were attending education sessions on what to expect while we preparing to head to the hill to meet our Senators and Congress people. I was able to meet so many great people with the same love for school nutrition. I even got to meet our national SNA President, Gay Anderson!

Our speakers were very informative and my favorite speaker was USDA's Secretary Sonny Perdue. He understands school nutrition and in my humble perspective totally supports what we do. To me, it is amazing that someone of this caliber to understand what we do on a daily basis. Being there, I felt like I was part of something very important. We all want to feel that.

I was excited being part of the MN group going to the capitol. You learn more than you could ever imagine. Before we arrived in Washington, we set up appointments with our

representatives. I had an appointment to meet with my Congressman Jim Hagedorn to discuss items on school nutrition. We met with his aide Kyle Pirron. As being the lead speaker in this meeting, having not done this before I was very nervous. As we started talking about the points we feel are important to school nutrition, it was like talking to a good friend! Kyle expressed interest during our meeting, even found out that he knew where Lewiston was and wanted to come visit our school and my dairy farm.

My total experience was so amazing and I am excited to represent MSNA next year as president. I encourage you to attend in the future, I recommend it highly. You will have a great experience and learn an enormous amount of information that can benefit your school districts.

Thank you for feeding our kids!

Vickie Speltz, MSNA President Elect

*MSNA President Amy Thering, SNA
President Gay Anderson, MSNA
President Elect Vickie Speltz*



Annual Membership Campaign 2018-19

#SNASTRONG

Alone We Whisper, Together We Shout!

SNA needs more voices raised in support of school meal programs.

We need you to recruit **new members** and **new voices** this year.

Recruit **ONE** or more new members between **June 1, 2018** and **May 31, 2019** and you will be automatically entered into a drawing to win **1 of 5 registrations** to **SNA's 2020 Annual National Conference (ANC)** in Nashville, TN*.

www.schoolnutrition.org/strong

*VOID WHERE PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED BY LAW.



Secretary/Treasurer

By Penny Hoops, Secretary/Treasurer

Hello everyone, it has been a busy few months in the finance world. MSNA's certified public accounting firm, KDV, has completed the annual tax returns and also this year, because of the change in secretary treasurers, have also completed a more in-depth compilation for the Association. The review did not find any irregularities in any of the financial records or financial transactions during the previous financial year. The tax forms are now completed and filed with the IRS along with renewing our non profit status with the MN Secretary of State.

Here is your financial report as of March 31, 2019:

Checking:	\$39,481.50
Savings:	\$101,175.13
Investments:	\$284,625.19
CD Investments:	\$88,907.19
Total:	\$514,189.09

As chair of the Annual Conference committee, I can report to you that things are moving along nicely and I am so excited to tell you that this conference Aug. 4-7 in St. Cloud's Rivers Edge Convention Center (RECC) will be one of the best yet! The conference committee is busy finalizing all of the details for meals, general session speakers and education sessions. This will be a conference you will not want to miss! Once again, by popular demand, the meal vouchers will be available both Monday and Tuesday nights, and there are LOTS of restaurant choices to choose from, many within walking distance of your hotel. You will notice that the registration fee has increased by \$5.00 per person. While the costs

of hosting the conference in St. Cloud is less expensive than other conference locations, the costs of the conference have still risen since the conference was last held in St. Cloud. With all of the exciting things that we have planned for you, I am positive that you will find the extra \$5.00 well worth it.

Speaking of St. Cloud, as you know, this is the first of three years that the conference will be held there. I want to share with you that the Executive Board has negotiated a second, consecutive three years with RECC. Many state associations in the country hold their annual conference in the same location year after year. Conference attendance in St. Cloud is consistently higher than attendance in Duluth or Rochester, which means that more of you find the central location in the state the easiest to get to, and it is more affordable for hotel rooms. By negotiating a contract for an additional three years now, the association will realize many financial benefits over the entire six year period.

That's it for now, I promised to keep this short and sweet, but I had a lot to share with you. Enjoy the last few months in school, and see you in St. Cloud in August!

If you ever have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Penny Hoops

Member Services Chair

By Amy Richardson, Member Services Chair

Chapter Leaders!

Another school year is coming to a close and for chapters boards the winding down of their year and the excitement of the new chapter board beginning! All 2018-2019 chapter officers have received the new informational chapter board packet with all the documents needed for the incoming board. Please make sure to share this information with the incoming officers and send back all the documents to the MSNA office by the June 1st deadline. This is how we can make sure all the chapters get the most up to date information needed to run their chapter.

Chapter Leadership Seminar

MSNA will be hosting a leadership seminar which will be held in conjunction with the Annual Conference in St. Cloud on Sunday, August 4, 2019. This seminar is designed to provide information to MSNA Chapter leaders that will be helpful to them during the upcoming year.

This seminar will include an opportunity for Chapter leaders and active chapter members to tell us what they need in terms of support. This event promises to be informative, engaging, and fun! You won't want to miss this seminar! Use the RSVP form found in the chapter board packet!

Chapter Presidents!

Wow!! I have heard great things that many of the chapters have been doing this past year! From donating gifts to Toys for Tots, serving dinner at the Ronald McDonald House, donating warm mittens & hats to those in need, diaper drives, we know there are many chapters out there who have met the requirements for the Chapter Presidents Award. Please use your 2018-2019 MSNA CHAPTER PLAN OF ACTION WORKSHEET to document what you did to meet the goals and objectives based on the 2018-19 plan of action. Submissions are due to June 1st to the MSNA office. All award winners will be recognized at the 63rd annual state conference held in St. Cloud!

Public Policy Update

By Noah Atlas, PPL Chair

At the end of February, I attended the School Nutrition Association Legislative Action Conference in Washington D.C. During this three-day event, our Minnesota contingent listened to some great speakers, discussed legislative issues, heard from the USDA and USDA Secretary Perdue, and met with our Congressional Representatives and Senators on Capitol Hill. As you can imagine Washington D.C. is a very busy place but our representatives took the time to meet with us to show their support for school nutrition programs and our Minnesota School Nutrition Association Members. When we were in Washington it seemed like it would be a quiet year for us legislatively, but now it looks like Congress may be ready to work on a Child Nutrition Reauthorization. We have not had a new reauthorization since 2010, and we will keep you all informed as we learn more.

We are in the middle of our Minnesota legislative season and things are moving along rapidly. This year MSNA partnered with Second Harvest Heartland and our Breakfast After the Bell Legislation (H.F. 1037 & S.F. 1427) has been heard in both the House and Senate Committees. If the House and Senate Committees are interested they will put our bills into an Omnibus bill (one big bill with many little bills in it) to be voted on by the House and Senate. If the bills pass through the House and Senate there will be some more discussion, and if the bills make it out of discussion, they will then go to the Governor to be signed into law.

On March 25th the Public Policy & Legislative committee held its annual Legislative Action Conference at the state Capitol. This year we held a reception where we invited our legislators to come and talk with us about school nutrition issues, we asked them for support of our bills, and we gave them some samples of what food really looks like in our schools. It was a great event and I think all of the legislators were impressed with our food and our MSNA members and Industry members.

I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to the great group of members and industry members that make up the PP&L committee, and thank them for putting in so much work to make our committee and our PP&L event such a success.

I would also like to thank the School Nutrition Directors of Minnesota (SNDM) group for working with us to plan their meeting day around our LAC event.

Finally, I would like to thank our members, industry members, Second Harvest Heartland and our lobbyist Sam Walseth from Capitol Hill Associates for supporting the MSNA PP&L. We could not do any of this work without you and your support.



Rep. Kristin Bahner (DFL Maple Grove) with Noah Atlas



Sen. Mary Kiffmeyer (GOP Big Lake) with Jonathan Ford, JTM Food Group



Rep. Sandy Masin (DFL Eagan) with Amy Thering



Rep. Cheryl Youakim (DFL Hopkins) with Barb Mechura, Hopkins ISD



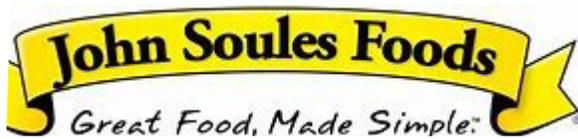
Rep. Connie Bernardy (DFL New Brighton) in the middle with Maria Anderson, Fridley, Jess Pena, Mounds View, Faith Ford, Anoka-Hennepin, Rep. Connie Bernardy, Amy Kimmel, Spring Lake Park ISD, Maggie Maggio, Fridley



Sen. Jeremy Miller (GOP) with Vickie Speltz

Elite Industry Members

To find out more on how to become an MSNA Industry Member visit our [Industry page](#) on the MSNA website!



Conference Corner

What's Your Story?

#SNIPCHAT-There's an App for that?

Join us at the 2019 SNIP (School Nutrition Industry Partner) Conference to be held at the beautiful Madden's Resort in Brainerd May 1-3, 2019!

The SNIP Committee has put together a great conference with keynote speakers, award-winning author and educator Dayle Hayes and Dr. Katie Wilson, PhD, SNS.



Dayle Hayes, MS, RD

Take the opportunity to network with colleagues and gain new tools and techniques for marketing your program.

Join Fellow MSNA Members and Learn To:

- Tell Your Story Through Marketing & Social Media Strategies #SNIPCHAT
- Step Up Your Power Point Game
- Target Audiences w/ Free Programs like Canva, Adobe Spark & Smore
- Use Your 60 Seconds To Promote Your Program
- Create Quick Clips To Tell Your Story Using iMovie

If you can, bring your laptop to work on during the education sessions.



Dr. Katie Wilson, PhD



The SNIP committee has lined up some fun activities on Thursday after the education sessions. You can participate in a Canvas & Cocktail painting party. You will be painting a tree landscape and will receive one beverage for the cost of \$45.00.

Golf will be at the Pine Beach East Golf Course. Sign up and payment will be on site. After dinner activities will be announced at the opening session.

Save the Date!

Industry Chair, Mary Ann Dammann invites all Industry to come up early on Wednesday night to participate in the Industry Forum hosted by the Industry Advisory Board. Speaker Dayle Hayes will speak to the group and have a Q&A. Afterwards, there will be an Industry sponsored pizza party for all attendees-Directors and Industry.

Service Project

We are asking SNIP attendees to bring food items for the Second Harvest Heartland Food Shelf to help out the community.

To help raise funds for the School Nutrition Foundation we will have tickets for purchase on some great baskets! Help us meet our goal of \$500.00! All funds help provide education opportunities for our members.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Madden's!!



Madden's Resort

11266 Pine Beach Peninsula,

Brainerd, MN

www.maddens.com

Education Update

MSNA is exploring a new spin on the Nutrition Conference. This conference which is traditionally held in the fall will be on hold until the beginning of 2020. The nutrition conference committee is hard at work to develop a new format and outline for the conference.

Look for more information to come in future MSNA Thymes with the new outline for the conference!

MSNA is always working hard to provide our members with resources and opportunities for training and professional development. Our Education Chairperson collaborates with other organizations across the state to ensure that we offer

is not overlapping what others are doing, and to help ensure that our partners are offering training that is relevant to what school nutrition professionals are looking for. Check out our website under the Training > For You Tab for lots of great information.

Also, Dare to Be Amazing, come to our 2019 Annual Conference to experience topnotch education sessions planned and to collaborate with your peers from across the state!

Conference Corner

Mark your calendars for the 63rd MSNA Annual State Conference to be held at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud MN on August 4-7th, 2019!

Conference Theme is "***Dare to be Amazing***"!

Conference chairs, Penny Hoops and Deanna Cooley and the annual conference committee are busy getting everything ready!

Our opening keynote speaker is Eric Kulikowski.



Since his days studying Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the University of Dayton, Eric has dedicated himself to the pursuit of individual and organizational excellence. As a professional leader development coach, speaker and consultant, Eric started his private practice, Dare to be Amazing, to help leaders make change possible. Businesses and individuals engage with Eric because they want to discover proven ways to thrive in the chaos that surrounds them everyday. They do this because they recognize they can't control their exact circumstances, but they do have complete control over the way they react to these circumstances. And, that's where Eric comes in. Give yourself five minutes with Eric and you will walk away with a whole new outlook. His positive attitude is absolutely contagious.

Our closing Keynote speaker is Dr. Tami West, PhD.



Dr. West cannot diagnose or treat your skin rash. She's not that kind of doctor. What kind of doctor is she? The kind who became a PhD solely to help others live happier, more fulfilled lives. Her passion stems from her battle with anxiety disorder that initiated her dedication to helping others. Her clients come from all walks of life, from Danbury Federal

Prison inmates (the setting of the Netflix Emmy-winning series Orange is the New Black) to Social Security Administration senior management. Tami is always real, completely transparent, totally sincere, and consistently surprising. She will make you laugh, cry, and shine a refreshingly new light on life's challenges.

Registration

Conference registration will be will open April 15th. Registration forms will be mailed out and will also be available on the [Events page](#) on the MSNA website. If you register online, your order confirmation is generated immediately upon submission of payment. Please do not use more than one method of registration.

Service Project

Our service project this year will be to the Child Advocacy Center (CentraCare Health Foundation). This center cares for children who have been physically, sexually or emotionally abused. This facility brings law enforcement, child protection, county attorneys, advocates, mental health and medical professionals together to listen as a child tells their traumatic story one time to a trusted professional.

How can you help?

As members we can donate items that can be utilized in the facility or sent home with the child to help them feel more comfortable during their experience.

Much needed items:

- Gas gift cards for families needing to travel to appointments
- Kid toys for the waiting area (toys easily cleaned-no wood)
- Fidget items (stress balls, fidget gadgets etc)
- Children & young adult clothing-size kid to 18-**MUST BE NEW**
- Hygiene items
- Socks/Underwear - sizes youth to 18- **MUST BE NEW**
Bring donations to registration area at RECC

Education Scholarship Fundraiser

Dig deep and get creative for the Education Scholarship Fundraiser! Use your imagination and put together a basket, purse, box, etc to help raise money for MSNA's Education Scholarship fund.

Volunteering

Please consider volunteering some time to make this the best MSNA Conference ever. A link to sign up to volunteer will be available online on the MSNA Event page.

Hotel Block

An adequate number of rooms have been blocked for members, vendors and speakers. The MSNA hotel block will open on May 1st. The hotels will not take reservations until then. **Please do not call the hotels until the block opens.**

MSNA HOTEL BLOCK

*Best Western Kelly Inn

100 4th Ave. S
St. Cloud, MN 56301
320-253-0606
Room Rate: \$89.00 + tax

Holiday Inn & Suites

75 S 37th Ave
St. Cloud, MN 56301
320-253-9000
Room Rate: \$94.00 + tax

*Courtyard by Marriott

404 St. Germain St.
St. Cloud, MN 56301
320-654-1661
Room Rate: \$159.00-\$179.00 + tax
(parking is extra)

*GrandStay Hotel

213 6th Ave S
St. Cloud, MN 56301
320-251-4500
Room Rate: \$109.00 + tax

Country Inn & Suites

120 7th Ave SE
St. Cloud, MN 56304
320-252-8282
Room Rate: \$99.00 + tax

**within walking distance

Event App

MSNA is partnering with Visit St. Cloud on an event app that you will be able to download. You will be able to find all the conference materials in the palm of your hand! You will be able to access the conference schedule, check out the speakers, access maps of the RECC and St Cloud. The App will maximize your conference experience! More details will be online and sent in the confirmation email.

Activities

We are working with the St. Cloud Visitor's Bureau to set up some fun activities to do after the education day is complete on Monday and Tuesday night.

You may be a Ringer! Golf Scramble

Pick your players and head out to Territory Golf Course for a quick, fun and friendly 9-hole golf scramble the afternoon of August 5th.

MMG Workshop

Looking for a lot of fun with a great custom takeaway? Look no further than Me, My Girls and Our Guy Workshop! You will build and decorate your very own sign, box, or one of the many other wood projects this unique little shop offers. Classes will be offered at 6pm on August 5th and 6th.

Welcome to the Beaver Island Trail!

Visit St. Cloud App, hitch up your wagon out downtown to participating restaurants checking in along the way. Choose your path wisely, enjoying good drinks along the way. Choose to complete the trail in one night or both, August 5th and 6th.

Nobody's Watchn' 5k

Whether you're an avid runner or casual stroller, you can take in some of the city's best sites at your own pace. No registration—simply use the map & App to access directions for the route, or just brag to your friends that you did it. After all, nobody's watchn'!

Exhibit Show Information

The MSNA Exhibit Show registration will open on April 15th. All in-information will be located on the MSNA website and forms will be sent electronically to current Industry Members.

Date: Tuesday, August 6, 2019
Location: River's Edge Convention Center (RECC)
10 4th Avenue S
St. Cloud, MN 56301
Booth Size: Standard booths, 8' x 10'
Multiple booths are available
Theme: "Dare to Be Amazing"
Colors: Blue and Silver
Exhibit Show Cost: Register and pay by June 3, 2019
MNSA Member Early Bird Special \$775
Non-member Early Bird Special \$975
*Late Fee to be added after 6/3/19 \$200

Cancellation within 30 days of show will have a \$150 administrative fee charge.

Exhibitor Set-up Hours:

Monday, August 5, 2019 2 pm - 6 pm
Tuesday, August 6, 2019 7 am

Exhibit Hall Hours:

Tuesday, August 6
11:00 am - 3:15 pm
11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Directors/Buyers only)
12:00 pm - 1:30pm (Team Green)
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm (Team Blue)
Directors/buyers allowed in for entire show hours

Exhibit Dismantling Hours: Immediately after show hours.

No Exhibitor may begin dismantling exhibit until AFTER the closing hour of exhibit. You will not be able to exhibit in 2020 if you close early.

If you enrolled as an Elite or Industry Premier Partner, booth cost was included with your annual membership fee. Please fill out registration form & health form for processing your registration.

National Nibbles



New Tools to Recognize Your Lunch Heroes!

[School Lunch Hero Day](#) is Friday, May 3—just one month away! How will you celebrate your #Lunch Heroes? Don't worry, SNA has numerous tools on hand to assist you in recognizing the amazing job school nutrition professionals do every day! Plus, find great gifts for your employees with a new yellow School Lunch Hero Day apron, t-shirt or other fun merchandise from the [SNA Emporium!](#)

Our Ethics Module is Made for You!

There are plenty of ethical decisions that come up in the school kitchen each day. Count yourself lucky if you haven't experienced a co-worker that makes questionable decisions from time to time. Are you sure that chicken salad has only been sitting out for 2 hours? Did you change your gloves after scratching your face? Believe it or not, having an arsenal of information on how and when to think about ethics can help you combat scenarios that could ultimately hurt your school nutrition program's reputation. Knowledge is power, and you deserve to feel confident when making your next ethical decision. For more information, go to the [Ethics Module](#) webpage.

House Subcommittee Holds Hearing on Child Nutrition Programs

A Subcommittee of the House Education and Labor Committee held a hearing in March examining federal Child Nutrition Programs. Members of the Civil Rights and Human Services Subcommittee heard testimony from four witnesses, two of them SNA members, about the importance of Child Nutrition Programs, specifically the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. You can [watch the hearing and read](#) the witnesses' testimony.

FNS Posts 2019 Reimbursement Rates for SFSP and SY2019-20 Income Eligibility Guidelines

In March, FNS posted the 2019 reimbursement rates for SFSP, as well as the Income Eligibility Guidelines for child nutrition programs for SY2019-20. Reimbursement rates for SFSP can be found in the [Federal Register](#),

and reflect annual adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index.

Adjustments to income eligibility guidelines for SY2019-20 impact the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Special Milk Program (SMP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). In the 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia, Guam and U.S. Territories, the monthly income limit for a family of four is \$3,970 for reduced-price meals and \$2,790 for free meals. That limit is \$4,963 for reduced-price meals and \$3,488 for free meals in Alaska, and \$4,567 for reduced-price meals and \$3,209 for free meals in Hawaii. You can view the full [chart of reimbursement rates](#) link.

FNS Extends FNS-640 Deadline and Issues Instructions and Reporting Guidance

Last week, FNS [posted a memo](#) with instructions and reporting guidance for state agencies using form FNS-640 to report SY2017-18 Administrative Review data. The memo also extended the reporting deadline to May 1, 2019, due to delays caused by the government shutdown and system development schedules.

School Breakfast Programs Can Now Substitute Vegetables for Fruit

In a recent [policy memo](#), FNS announced that effective immediately School Food Authorities (SFAs) participating in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) may credit any vegetable offered, including potatoes and other starchy vegetables, in place of fruit without including vegetables from other subgroups in the weekly breakfast menus.

SFAs must offer 1 cup of fruit daily to children in all age and grade groups. To meet this requirement, SFAs may offer a vegetable in place of a fruit. SFAs that offer 1 cup of fruit or vegetable at breakfast each day will be considered compliant during the Administrative Review through September 30, 2019. Under regulations prior to this notice, participants had to ensure that at least

two cups per week are from the dark green, red/orange, beans and peas or "other vegetables" subgroups.

Submit Your Research on Special Diets!

Special diets are a hot topic of debate in lunchroom and school nutrition departments. For the upcoming Fall 2019 edition of *Journal of Child Nutrition & Management*, the issue will be themed with this interesting topic in mind. Consider sharing strategies, research, tips or stories from your own experiences. [Learn More](#). Submission deadline is May 15, 2019.

SNA – Helping Win Over the Public on School Meals

Does everyone in your community know that today's school meals are nutritious and delicious? Tackling age-old stereotypes about school meals is daunting, but SNA has developed a host resources to help you educate community members about the benefits of school meals. Visit [www.school-nutrition.org/PR](#) for a wide variety of members-only tools. Here's a quick overview of our most popular resources:

- [Media and Outreach Guides](#): From our recent "Winning Over the Public on School Meals" webinar (available on-demand), to tip sheets on prepping for media interviews, these tools outline successful tactics for spreading the good news.
- [Talking Points and Customizable PR Tools](#):

Whether you're preparing for a presentation before the PTO or an interview on unpaid meal charges, SNA can help!

- [Backpack Brochures and Flyers](#): SNA offers customizable handouts to help you promote your program, including colorful new "Parents: Did You Know?" flyers and fact sheets detailing the benefits of school breakfast and lunch.

Continued on page 12

What's Happening?

Calendar of Events

May 1-3, 2019

SNIP Conference
Madden's Resort
Brainerd MN

May 3, 2019

School Lunch Hero Day

May 9-11, 2019

National Leadership Conference
Sarasota, FL

May 15, 2019

Executive Board Meeting
General Mills

July 14-16, 2019

ANC
St. Louis MO

August 4-7, 2019

MSNA Annual Conference
St. Cloud MN

October 14-18, 2019

National School Lunch Week



Industry Partners

You can find their information on the Industry Directory on the [MSNA website](#).

New Industry Partners

FlavorTemptations/Fill My Recipe

Buena Vista Foods

J.R Simplot Co

Nardone Bros. Pizza



facebook.com/mnsna

Don't forget to **Like** us
on Facebook!

National Nibbles cont'd

SNA's [About School Meals](#) section of the website is a great resource to share with parents, administrators, legislators, or anyone who wants to learn about school meal programs. The site offers a wealth of information, including: [one-pagers](#) on school nutrition standards; the [latest statistics](#) on school meal participation, reimbursements, and more; and tips for [getting involved](#) in school meal programs.

New SNS Exam Launching in July 2019

SNA is releasing a new School Nutrition Specialist (SNS) credentialing exam in July 2019 which will have some minor content area modifications.

With the increased focus on procurement in school nutrition, Content Area IV: Procurement and Inventory Management has been split and renamed Content Area IV: Procurement Man-

agement. This content area is now entirely dedicated to procurement related competencies and accounts for 5.5% of the overall exam. The inventory related competencies have been redistributed to other content areas, mainly Content Area III. To reflect this change, Content Area III is now named Food Production, Inventory, and Operation Management.

Please note that overall the test competencies have not changed, they have been redistributed to better reflect the current responsibilities of school nutrition professionals. The content area weightings have also not changed.

For questions about the upcoming changes to the SNS exam, please visit www.schoolnutrition.org/SNS or email CertSNS@schoolnutrition.org.

Order Your Copy of Little Big Fact Book Today!

The 2019 edition of SNA's Little Big Fact Book is hot off the presses. This 44-page guide offers an extensive look into the unique field of school foodservice and is a great companion for state legislators, school administrators, media personnel, outside stakeholders, employees new to school nutrition and those in need of a refresher course! The book offers the most up-to-date facts on federal programs, USDA Foods, the school nutrition market and other hot topics. [Order your copies today!](#)

Chapter Chatter

By Delora Brucick, River Valley Chapter 35 Historian

River Valley Chapter 35 members participated in several local service projects this school year. Two projects highlighted were donating gifts to Toys for Tots in December 2018 and then again donating warm hats and mittens for district children in February 2019. The abundance of giving was amazing



Submitted by Sandra Fredrickson, Crow River Chapter 22

On April 1st, Crow River Chapter 22 held their meeting at West Elementary School in Hutchinson MN. After the business meeting and updates, Sharon Maus, MSNA Executive Director installed the incoming 2019-2020 chapter officers. A small reception was held after the spice installation and prizes given out. Service project was member donations for the local food shelf.



Left to Right: Persident Elect, Angie Snidarich, President Tami Surprenant Treasurer, Karen Weir Secretary Sandy Wosmek (Sandy Fredrickson standing in for Sandy Wosmek)

Submitted by Jo Lange, Paul Bunyan Chapter 34

Chapter 34 held their October 2018 meeting with a presentation by Julie Flathers, Coordinator with SHIP was at the meeting to discuss the Statewide Health, SHIP coordinator. She presented on the Improvement Plan and the School Health Index. Three new MSNA members signed up that evening. The Chapter will be sponsoring a first-time attendee from the chapter to attend Annual Conference in St. Cloud.



Minnesota School Nutrition Association

Get highlighted on MSNA's FACEBOOK page!



Photo/ News Ideas:

- Lunch Tray Photos
- Holiday Events
- Cafeteria Decorations
- New Recipes/Menu Options
- Student Taste Tests
- School Gardens
- Breakfast Options
- Farm To School Events
- Chapter Meeting and News
- Food Service Awards
- Staff Training Photos
- Food Service Staff Retirements
- New Food Service Staff Hires
- Conference Photos
- New Kitchen Equipment
- National School Breakfast Week
- National School Lunch Week
- Harvest of the Month
- New Serving Styles
- School Food Industry News
- Cafeteria Guests

Send News & Photos to:

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860-426-9991 ext. 17



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