

2019-2020 MSNA Board

In This Issue:

2019-20 Board

President's
Message

Conference Corner

National Nibbles

Whats Happening

The 2019-2020 Executive Board was installed at the 63rd MSNA annual Conference in St. Cloud on August 7th. President, Vickie Speltz, Lewiston/Altura ISD will represent MSNA members and serving under her leadership is:

Jo Lange, SNS, Red Lake ISD, Carrie Frank, Dover/Eyota ISD, Penny Hoops, Faith Ford, Anoka-Hennepin ISD, Mary Ann Dammann, KeyImpact Sales & Systems, Emily Malone, Prior Lake ISD, Noah Atlas, Anoka-Hennepin ISD, Loriann Landowski, Foley ISD and Debra Lukkonen, MN Department of Education.



*Vickie Speltz
President*



*Jo Lange, SNS
President Elect*



*Carrie Frank
Vice President*



*Penny Hoops
Secretary/Treasurer*



*Faith Ford
Nutrition Chair*



*Mary Ann Dammann
Industry Chair*



*Emily Malone
Education Chair*



*Noah Atlas
Public Policy Chair*



*Loriann Landowski
Education Chair*



*Debra Lukkonen
State Agency*

President's Message



Vickie J. Speltz
MSNA President

Happy fall everyone!

I hope everyone is settling in to the new school year. I know I am. It amazes me how fast times goes and how the students change over the summer.

I hope that those of you that were at the 63rd MSNA annual conference enjoyed yourselves, learned from the wonderful workshops and networked with your colleagues. I know that I did and was able to connect with many of you. I so appreciate all the kind words from those of you that I had a chat with, it really meant the world to me.

As we begin the 2019-2020 board year, we will focus on year two of the 2018-2021 MSNA Strategic plan. Our goals for 2019-2020 are:

1. Professional Development
2. Advocacy & Public Image
3. Membership & Community
4. Governance & Operations

As we work on our strategic plan with the goals, objectives and action plan, we will be updating our Policy and Procedures. This manual is a working document that we continually review and update. As per the requirements of being a state SNA affiliate, we will be updating our policies to include the SNA/MSNA Code of Ethics, Policy Against Harassment as well as a committee form that will help all committee chairs and members understand the requirements and commitment of being a MSNA committee member.

I am excited to introduce our three new board members this year. Carrie Frank, Vice President, Faith Ford, Nutrition Chair, and Loriann Landowski, Member Services Chair. These ladies will be attending the Midwest Regional Leadership Conference "Equipping, Encouraging and Engaging Leaders" on October 11th & 12th, in Sioux Falls South Dakota. The Midwest Regional area is made up of 8 states: Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, North and South Dakota, Missouri and Nebraska. This Leadership conference will be a great opportunity for attendees to learn more leadership, effective meetings, ethics, work life balance and to be able to network with other states and their board members.

I would like to extend a personal thank you to Jackie Brown and Amy Richardson for the hard work and dedication they have given the MSNA board and its members for the last two years as Nutrition Chair and Member Services Chair. Also, a heartfelt thank you to Amy Thering for her dedication to our association, as 2018-2019 President and being a huge asset to MSNA for the past 7 years.

What is really hard and really amazing, is giving up on being perfect and beginning the work of becoming yourself. What you do everyday matters in the life of a student. I wish all of our members the best in the 2019-2020 school year.

Remember to "Be Amazing"!

Always,

Vickie Speltz



Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.™



~If you can't change a situation, change your perception of it. Remember, most of your stress comes from the way you respond, not the way life is!~

President Elect



Jo Lange, SNS
President Elect

Greetings!

Your MNSA Executive Committee and Executive Board are busy implementing the Strategic Plan for this year, and we thought you might like an update. The Executive Committee, which is comprised of the Officers of the association-President, President-Elect, Vice President and Secretary Treasurer, have been meeting to set the pace to meet the different goals of the Strategic Plan; since the full board does not meet until third week of October, and some committees will already have had meetings before that date, it was necessary for the Executive Committee to meet and act on committee structure.

The process of Executive Committee action is in place in the Policy and Procedures Manual and has been used a number of times when it has been deemed necessary for the good of MSNA. One of the focal points of the Strategic Plan this year is to adhere to the policy and procedures set forth by MSNA. In the past, you may have heard something like, "The Policy and Procedures are just a guideline, but not set in stone", or something along those lines.

MSNA, as you know, is a State Affiliate of SNA, and as such, must comply and align with SNA's Policy and Procedures, and therefore, strictly adhere to MSNA's Policy and Procedures. This practice is to ensure that the interests of MSNA and its membership are protected. This is a top priority for this year.

Here's a short version of committees and how they work. Each committee has a chairperson, and depending on the size of the committee, sometimes also has a co-chair. The committee chairs and co-chairs are recommended to the Executive Board, who either approves or denies the nominations. The committee chair(s) report out to the Executive Board; updates are to be provided to the Board for each Executive Board meeting, at the end of the committee's conference, and any time in between when necessary to receive Board approval for big budget items, questions or problems. The Executive Director attends all committee meetings and provides guidance and support for each committee.

The committee chairs and co-chairs recruit committee members, the number of which is set by the Policy and Procedures Manual for each specific committee. The committee members commit to a two-year term, and may volunteer for an additional two-year term, with the Executive Board's approval for the additional term. At the end of the second two-year term, the committee member steps down. This allows other MSNA members who want to volunteer on a committee the opportunity to do so. This policy provides new and fresh ideas for the committee. Once a member has stepped down from a committee, they are more than welcome to join a different committee if they so choose, and there is an opening on the new committee. This year, the goal is to have only the number of committee members assigned to a committee actually serve on the committee.

That's it in a nutshell! If you have ever considered participating on a committee, I highly recommend doing so. It is fascinating to see what all goes on behind the scenes, and you will make new friendships, and get the feelings of accomplishment and camaraderie. It's work, but fun and rewarding.

Enjoy the fall!

Jo Lange, SNS
MSNA President-Elect

"Be Inspired ~Shoot for the Stars".



Secretary/Treasurer



Penny Hoops
Secretary / Treasurer

Hello MSNA Members!!

It is hard to believe the annual conference is over, school started back up and we are getting ready for MEA!

We are in the process of finishing up the 63rd annual conference Profit and Loss sheet but I would like to share the finance report that I gave at the conference in August.

Members have been asking me why MSNA has such a large amount of money in reserves. MSNA was recommended to have 18-24 months in reserves. Currently MSNA has 16 months of funds in reserve. This is to ensure there are funds to use if there is a loss in revenue. As shown at the business meeting a loss from the 2018 annual conference shows we had to use general fund money to cover costs. With a lower registration count in 2018, the registration fees did not cover the costs and there was a \$19,108 loss. MSNA is working on a policy that will outline the use of the reserves to secure the future of MSNA.

According to our MSNA Articles of Incorporation our association is a 501(c)4 Corporation (status is renewed annually). What this means is that our association is federally and state income tax exempt but not sales tax exempt. We can lobby but donations are not eligible for any tax benefits. This is the cost of being able to lobby significantly more than a 501(c)(3).

MSNA files tax forms 990 & 990-T annually and an annual audit is completed by an independent non profit CPA accounting firm.

The yearly budget is drafted in October and has the full executive board input and approval. MSNA has a cash basis accounting method. This means cash/payments are recorded during the period they are received, and expenses are recorded during the period they are paid- cash in, cash out. There are no accrual of funds-no carry over to the next year. The association is not like school financials but have a fiscal calendar year of January-December.

MSNA has fixed consultant contracts that are paid each month. MSNA does not pay any benefits (taxes, social security, insurance or retirement) for consultants. MSNA does not have any employees. The annual total contracted payments are \$132,180.00 per year. Our income comes from our member dues that SNA distributes back to us at the beginning of each month and our Industry Membership dues. This accounts for about \$81,500.00 per year. As you can see, we need our conferences to be able to cover all the costs and to be profitable.

Here is your financial report as of September 30, 2019:

Checking:	\$64,132.81
Savings:	\$101,442.06
Investments:	\$295,498.37
CD Investments:	\$96,817.69 (quarterly statements)
Total:	\$557,890.93

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



Faith Ford
Nutrition Chair

Nutrition Chair

I want to let you all know that the MSNA Fall Nutrition Conference is temporarily postponed for 2019. We received valuable feedback during MSNA's 63rd Annual Conference, and from that we are assessing how we can best provide training and education.

We are taking this opportunity to postpone the annual fall Nutrition

Conference to re-format the layout so that we can better serve our member's needs. Please note that the Nutrition Conference will take place at a future date in 2020 and will be better than ever! We will be sure to keep you informed as it is developed.

Minnesota Certified Food Protection Manager License
Just a reminder to everyone that holds a MN Certified Food Protection Manager License, that the new food code went

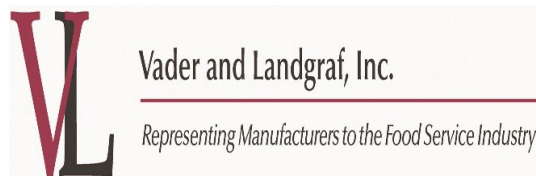
into effect on January 1, 2019. One of the changes in the new code is you **MUST** renew your certified food manager's license **BEFORE** the expiration date. There is no longer a grace period. Another reminder that you must apply for the initial Minnesota CFPM no more than six months after passing the exam. For more details on the CFPM and MN Food Code, [click here](#).

October is [National School Lunch Week](#) (NSLW), [Farm to School](#) Month and The Great Apple Crunch! We know you are all doing great things in your schools and we need you to take a photo or share your plans with us!
Ideas to share with us:
New Recipes, Nutrition Education Initiatives, Colorful Lunch Tray Photos, Guest Servers, Student Taste Tests, Cafeteria Decorations, Farm / Garden Activities Events

Send your NSLW and F2S Month news to rpiazzaroli@cjpr.com or info@mnsna.org!

2019 Elite Industry Members

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



Public Policy Update



Noah Atlas

Public Policy Chair

The public policy and legislation committee has been working with Second Harvest Heartland and other policy partners to promote breakfast after the bell legislation. In order to pass this bill we need to help our legislators understand how important breakfast is to our programs and our guests.

What a legislator wants to know is how breakfast after the bell will affect their school districts and how it will benefit their students. The best way for our legislators to know how this will affect their students is for them to hear it directly from you.

There are two good ways to get this information to your legislator.

- You can call, email, or send a letter to their office letting them know that you support breakfast after the bell and that breakfast after the bell will benefit their students and schools.
- You can invite your legislators to breakfast. Inviting your legislators to breakfast is a great way for you to help them understand how breakfast works, and an even better way to help them understand the benefit a breakfast has on our students.

To invite a legislator to breakfast and visit your school, [SNA Cafeteria 101 guide](#) has some steps to follow.

- Start by asking your building administration if you can have a legislator visit.
- Contact your state legislator. You can find your state legislator by using [this link](#).
- Make a plan of what you would like to show your legislator and get all of your facts together. How many F/R students you serve, how many breakfasts and lunches you serve, what programs you offer, and any other unique things about your program. Please remember to let them know that you support the breakfast after the bell legislation and how it will affect your school.
- Call the local newspaper or T.V. station and invite them to the visit if your administration allows it.
- Involve your students whenever possible. Let them ask the legislator questions and have them talk about how school meals benefit them.

I know that a visit can seem like a lot of work and may not be what you are most comfortable doing, but that is where the PP&L committee can help. We can help you create materials, provide information, and if needed be on site to help you with your visit.

Remember you are the subject matter experts when it comes to school food and our legislators can learn a lot from you.





Debra Lukkenon, RD, SNS
MN Dept of Education

Point of Service Counting – What does that mean?

The National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Afterschool Snack Program, Special Milk Program and Minnesota Kindergarten Milk Program all require meals/snacks/milk to be counted at the “Point of Service” or POS. Point of Service refers to the location in the serving line where a

determination can accurately be made that a reimbursable free, reduced-price or paid meal/milk has been served to an eligible student. The majority of Point of Service Meal Counts occur at the end of the serving line.

Why are POS Meal Counts Important?

There are two purposes of the POS:

1. To identify a student's eligibility status (free, reduced-price, or paid) when they receive a reimbursable meal using a process that avoids overt identification.
2. To verify that the student has selected a reimbursable meal that can be counted and claimed for reimbursement.

The point of service is a crucial component of meal and milk programs because it ensures students receive a reimbursable meal. It also ensures that each reimbursable meal is counted, allowing the SFA to receive reimbursement from state and federal sources.

What are some meal counting options?

Most school food authorities (SFAs) use an electronic system for the POS. However, a manual system or a combination of manual/electronic POS can also be utilized.

1. An electronic system requires a POS software program. It includes steps like a student swiping a meal card, entering an identification number on a key pad, or a food service employee checking the students names into the computer system at the POS.
2. A manual system is utilized when an employee uses a paper roster to check students' names at the POS as they receive a reimbursable meal/milk.
3. A manual/combination system is utilized when an employee uses a paper roster. The employee uses the roster to check names at the POS. Once meal/milk service is completed, the employee goes back and enters the student names and meal count into a POS software program for counting purposes.

Electronic, manual or manual/combination systems are allowable for use at the POS, as long as the system and process used yield an accurate count of the total number of free, reduced-price, and paid reimbursable meals/milk served. However, when the SFA's meal counting process involves several steps, including multiple transfers of counts from one document/computer to another there is a high

likelihood of errors occurring. SFAs need to maintain all counting documentation.

What about classroom counts?

- Can I discard the teacher's meal count slips?
- Can I erase a classroom “white board”

There are times when meals, milk and snacks are not served in the cafeteria. Teachers may take breakfast or milk counts in the classroom and then record the numbers on a piece of paper, on a classroom “white board” or other document. The counts are later recorded in an electronic counting software mechanism. Afternoon snack program monitors also frequently record POS counts on paper and then report the numbers electronically. These counting methods are fine, but again, care must be taken to save the original meal counting documentation!

What does that mean?

USDA requires SFAs to keep all records on file for three years plus the current school year. Your school or district may have longer record retention requirements. “Records” include the meal counting slips, paper records and even white-board counts, for three plus years! If teachers, afterschool care monitors or other staff throw away the paper record, wipe off the marker sheet or white board, then there is no longer an auditable record of the POS counts!

What should I do?

If counts are being recorded on a white board or similar method, staff can take a photo of the counts on the white board and transfer the photo and store it electronically or print a hard copy. A daily meal count tally that is recorded individually on a scratch paper must be kept for 3 plus years, also.

Need more information?

For more information on point of service and meal counting methods, including counting adult, visiting students and student worker meals, as well as field trips, preventing overt identification, non-reimbursable meals, back-up counting systems, POS signage and staff training, please refer to the [MDE webpage](#).

Offer Versus Serve Posters for Lunch

These posters are to be used as signage to educate students in selecting a reimbursable lunch under Offer versus Serve. Teachers and school foodservice professionals will find these posters help students more quickly select the foods in the lunch line that make up a reimbursable meal.

[Download PDF files.](#)



Member Services



Loriann Landowski
Member Services Chair

I am looking forward to working with all the chapters and all members for the upcoming year. As of October 1, 2019, the SNA membership processing fee will be changed to \$2.50, reflecting the ongoing costs of doing business. The membership processing fee had been unchanged since 2014 and SNA continues to strive to keep costs down, while still providing high-quality member benefits. You are able to download a membership form or you can become/

renew your membership online.

Also effective on October 1, 2019, the [Certificate program](#) fees will increase as outlined below. The changes apply to new Certificate applications, renewals and reinstatements. For full details, [click here](#). If you have questions, please contact SNA at certSNS@schoolnutrition.org.

Membership Campaign

Recruit at least one new SNA member between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020 and you will be entered into the drawing to

win a free registration for SNA's 2021 Annual National Conference in Chicago, IL*. Make sure the new member writes your name in the referral section of the membership application, otherwise it won't count toward the campaign!

Education Scholarships

Achieve your educational dreams with an [education scholarship from the School Nutrition Foundation](#)! Education scholarships provide SNA members with funding for tuition and books for the following school year.

Below are just a few of the conference scholarships available.

- Josephine Martin National Policy Fellow
- SNA Conference Scholarships
- ANC First-Timer Scholarships

Chapter Officers-watch for information coming on the Chapter Plan of action and chapter updates!

Contact me with any questions, I am here to help you!

**Recruit a New
SNA Member
Today!**

Recruit 1 or more new
members between **June 1, 2019**
and May 31, 2020
and you will be entered to
win 1 of 5 registrations for
SNA's 2021 Annual National
Conference in Chicago, IL.*

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YOUR Profession...

YOUR FUTURE.

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*VOID WHERE RESTRICTED OR PROHIBITED BY LAW

Learn more at www.schoolnutrition.org/build

Industry Chair



Mary Ann Dammann
Industry Chair

MSNA held its Annual Conference August 4-7, 2019, at the St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center (RECC). The RECC is a great venue for our Industry Partners.....from loading docks, to electrical, to booth configurations, to just about any kind of help we needed, they provided.

We had 145 booths in the Exhibit Hall this year! The "flow to the show" was outstanding with the directors/purchasers only

coming through first, then two separate groups followed. The vendors were happy to have plenty of time to show new products, share menu concepts and, most importantly, build relationships.

Our MSNA Industry Partners had a fun and successful day and look forward to next year!! Plans are under way for the 2020 Exhibit Show. We are working on changes so stay tuned for details!!

Industry Membership

Industry members please look for the 2020 Industry Membership information coming your way in early November. Membership materials will be sent electronically and mate-

rials will be on the MSNA website. As an Industry Partner, MSNA offers a variety of options to help you reach more customers. Membership is for one-year and begins January 1 of each year until December 31

SNIP Conference

Mark your calendars and come join us May 6-8, 2020 at beautiful Madden's on Gull Lake!! The SNIP Committee has started planning another great conference. Watch for more details on registration and hotel reservations.

Industry Advisory Board

Did you know that MSNA has an Industry Advisory Board (IAB)? This board supports MSNA's mission and vision by providing input and recommendations to the Association from an Industry perspective and serves as liaisons to the industry membership in support of the Priority Issues of the association. If you as an Industry member have any questions or concerns please contact me and I will work with the IAB to address them.

Current Members are:

Mary Ann Dammann, KeyImpact Sales
Michele Crumbaugh, PrimeroEdge/Cybersoft Technologies
Mike DeRosia, Vader & Landgraf, Inc
John Jurichko, ATS&R Architects
Janelle Nash, Brakebush Bros.
Heather Yanta, Indianhead Foodservice Distributor

SNA Address Updates

If you have changed email addresses, mailing addresses and or schools make sure you contact SNA.

This is our way of making sure you get the most out of your membership!

To make any changes or to correct contact information go to www.schoolnutrition.org and click on the red Login to My Account button in the upper right-hand corner. Enter your user name and password to login or click Member Registration to create an account. Once logged in, click on the Member Record tab and select Member Contact Information. Update any needed information and click Save Changes.



Conference Corner



*Penny Hoops & Deanna Cooley
Conference Chairs*

What a great time at the 63rd Annual State Conference! Over 820 attendees and 116 first timers attending the conference held at the River's Edge Convention Center St. Cloud, MN.

We kicked off the conference Eric Kulikowski. What have you challenged yourself to do to "climb your Mount Kilimanjaro?"

Our closing speaker Dr. Tami West left the attendees laughing and brought humor to motivate us for our new school year! Are you still "Managing your Emoji's?"

A variety of workshops provided training in all the Key Areas. This was the first year we tried to list the target audience. Hopefully most of you found that helpful. Thank you to the workshop committee for all of their hard work getting a variety of classes that would benefit all members. It is very hard to determine what classes might be more popular than the next.

Thank you to all who completed the conference survey to help the 2020 conference committee with ideas for sessions for next year. Presentations/handouts can be found on the MSNA website on the event page.

Through many generous donations from our members, our service project received many items be used for the families to help them get back on their feet! Our education scholarship fund brought in over \$3500.00 be used for education purposes and the Political Action Committee (PAC) raised \$932.00. The food donated from exhibitors at the Exhibit Show was over 3500 pounds! This food was donated to the local food bank for use in the community!

We partnered this year with the St. Cloud Visitor's Bureau and by using their event app, we were able to find all the materials, events and maps right in the palm of our hands. We highly suggest everyone download the app (Visit Greater St. Cloud) next year to maximize your conference experience. Be on the lookout for the evening activities next year too!

The Exhibit Show is always the most anticipated part of the conference. The exhibit booths were set up for attendees to discover new food items, equipment and technology.

Through the Education Scholarship Fund, there were seven 1st Time Scholarship Winners that were able to attend the annual conference. The conference registration and hotel were included in the scholarship. Scholarship winners were Heather Eich, Foley ISD, Courtney LaDuke, Richfield ISD, Julie Mattice, White Bear Lake ISD, Kristie Schmidt, St. Paul ISD, Amy Schulties, District 196, Peggy Torgerson, Lake Superior ISD and Jennifer Walberg, Osseo ISD

2019 Conference Chairs, Penny Hoops and Deanna Cooley send out a HUGE thank you to the annual conference committee. It takes MANY volunteer hours to organize and set up the conference to make it the best experience for each member. Mark your calendars for the 64rd Annual Conference that will be held at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud August 2-5, 2020.

Watch for the opportunity to share your school nutrition expertise. The 2020 MSNA "Call for Proposals" for education sessions for the 2020 conference workshops will be sent out at the end of October.

Now that school has started back up, we hope each of you "Dare to be Amazing". Check out all the conference photos on Flickr. Link on Events page on website.



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:

Robby Piazzaroli
rpiazzaroli@cjpr.com
860-426-9991 ext. 17



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National Nibbles

National School Lunch Week 2019: The Crowd Needs to Hear Your Playlist

Have you started sharing what's on your #SchoolLunchPlaylist with your students, staff, parents, school administration and other community stakeholders? #NSLW19 starts October 14 and will be here before you know it! While you fine tune your playlist of all things school lunch, SNA is here to help with marketing materials and PR resources to get the crowds jumping as you gear up for #NSLW19.

And a new marketing tool has been added! SNA's pre-designed Microsoft® PowerPoint presentations are ready for you to promote the NSLW 2019 theme to staff and key stakeholders!

Remember to check out the latest Emporium Catalog or shop online for hot new NSLW merchandise that you and your staff can sport (bulk discounts available), along with fun cafeteria decorations. Order your merch early because concert swag is always hot!

Updated Unpaid Meal Charge Talking Points

Last month, SNA released the 2019 School Nutrition Trends Report, which included new data on the growing problem of unpaid meal debt in school cafeterias. This topic continues to be the focus of national media stories, and given heightened interest in this issue, school nutrition professionals should be prepared to discuss district charge policies, how they compassionately respond to students unable to pay for their meals and work to enroll needy families in the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Program. To assist with these conversations, SNA has updated member talking points on unpaid meal charges. SNA members can access these points on the "Talking Points and Customizable PR Tools" webpage. A variety of other helpful PR resources, including backpack brochures and media outreach guides can be found at www.SchoolNutrition.org/PR.

Online Registration Now Open for SNIC 2020!

Register now for SNA's 2020 School Nutrition Industry Conference (SNIC) in Indian Wells, California—the most visionary conference in school nutri-

tion! This premier event will bring together school nutrition operators and industry partners for three days of unparalleled learning and networking. [Register Here!](#)

New School Meal Bills Introduced to Congress

Nine new bills impacting school nutrition programs were introduced in August 2019:

- Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) and Rep. DeSaulnier (D-CA) introduced [S. 1949](#) and [H.R. 3444](#), the School Food Modernization Act. This act would require the Secretary of Agriculture to make loan guarantees and grants to finance specific improvements to school lunch facilities and to train school food-service personnel.

- Sen Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Rep. Marcia Fudge (D-OH) introduced [S. 2026](#) and [H.R. 3562](#), the Farm to School Act of 2019. The bill expands participation in the Farm to School Grant Program to preschools, after-school programs and summer food service sites, and increases annual mandatory funding from \$5 to \$15 million.

- Rep. Joseph Morelle (D-NY) introduced [H.R. 3667](#), the Summer Meals and Learning Act of 2019. The bill would create a new federal grant program to allow schools operating a summer lunch program to keep their libraries open during the summer months. The bill appropriates \$5 million per year to fund the program through 2024.

- Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) introduced [H.R. 4065](#), the Food for Thought Act of 2019. This bill would authorize Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to make grants available for community college campuses in order to establish a free meal program for eligible students, prepare and purchase meals from manufacturers and provide information to eligible students on federal food assistance programs through campus outreach.

- Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA) introduced [S. 2359](#), a bill that amends the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, requiring the consideration of "non-income assets" in a household that qualifies for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) through broad-based



categorical eligibility.

- Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) introduced [S. 2331](#), the Improve Training for School Food Service Workers Act of 2019 to address issues in training food service workers. This bill amends the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to clarify the availability and appropriateness of training for local food service personnel.

- Sen. Robert Casey (D-PA) introduced [S. 2358](#), the Wise Investment in Children Act of 2019, to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to increase the age of eligibility for children to receive benefits under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children (WIC).

USDA Announces NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SMP Payments and Maximum Reimbursement Rates

In a [Federal Register notice](#) published on August 7th, FNS announced its SY2019-20 adjustments to the national [average payments and reimbursement rates](#) for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Special Milk Program (SMP) and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). This notice outlines the amount of money that the Federal Government will provide to the States for breakfasts, lunches and afterschool snacks served to those participating. [Read full story here.](#)

USDA Releases Evaluation of the School Meal Data Collection Process

USDA has released a final report for its [Evaluation of the School Meal Data Collection](#) Process. This study evaluates the methodologies and processes of school food authorities (SFAs) and State agencies to collect and report data using three FNS forms for various Federal school meal programs. This study also identifies potential sources of error when completing forms and goes on to provide helpful recommendations for improving the

What's Happening?

Calendar of Events

October

Farm to School Month

October 11-12, 2019

Midwest Regional Leadership

October 14-18, 2019

National School Lunch Week

October 23, 2019

Executive Board Meeting

October 31, 2019

[Josephine Martin](#)

[National Scholarship](#) Deadline

January 12-14, 2020

School Nutrition

Industry Conference (SNIC)

Indian Wells, California

January 15, 2020

Executive Board Meeting

February 25, 2020

MN Legislative Conference

St. Paul MN

March 8-10, 2020

SNA Legislative Conference

Washington DC

Industry Partners

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

New Industry Partners

MAMAC Systems

Easybar Central

Home Snack Foods



facebook.com/mnsna

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on Facebook!

National Nibbles cont'd

collection and reporting process. Read full story [here](#).

Overall recommendations Include:

- Involve a diverse range of operators in the designing and testing of forms before implementation;
- Ensure that software companies create data systems that schools and SFAs are aware of and fully understand all program requirements and changes;
- Increase the promotion of toolkits and program materials associated with the certification and verification process, in particular, the [Verification Toolkit](#);
- Support and specify training for teachers and other non-foodservice staff that are involved in serving program meals outside of the cafeteria; and
- Provide case-by-case flexibility to state agencies in applying the SNAP Direct Certification threshold standard.

Final Public Charge Rule Published

On August 14, 2019, the Department of

Homeland Security (DHS) published a [final rule](#) titled "Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds." This change to U.S. immigration policies will make it much more difficult to apply for a green card or earn a visa for applicants who are deemed likely to depend on government aid such as SNAP, housing assistance and Medicaid. The new policy is set to go into effect in mid-October. [Learn More](#).

Because You're Worth It

You want to continue your professional development and have heard about the scholarship opportunities available through the School Nutrition Foundation (SNF). But nagging doubts have crept into your mind. "I'll never get an SNF scholarship. Why should I even apply?"

Well, [check out these videos](#) from previous SNF scholarship winners and take their advice: "Apply. Apply. Apply!" Last year, SNF awarded 87 scholarships totaling more than \$100,000 to SNA members for conference atten-

dance and professional development. And you could be a recipient of a future scholarship! On September 1, the Josephine Martin National Policy Fellowship application will open. Opening day for applications for Professional Development scholarships, and scholarships for the 2020 School Nutrition Industry and the Legislative Action Conferences kicks off on October 1. With the help of a professional development or conference scholarship, you can further your career and your passion. You are worth it!

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue administered the oath of office to swear in Donald "DJ" LaVoy to serve as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development Deputy Under Secretary.

Children Nutrition Recipe Box

The Children Nutrition Recipe Box (CNRB) provides Child Nutrition program operators with recipes to prepare healthy and delicious meals that meet meal pattern requirements. These recipes are standardized to provide meal pattern crediting information for all meal pattern components and include recipes made with legumes, whole grains, and vegetables from the vegetable subgroups including dark green, red, and/or orange vegetables.

Recipes are organized by main entrées, vegetables, fruits, and grains, as well as alphabetically for users looking for a specific recipe. Download and print recipes as needed for your program operations.

In the Spring of 2020, the Child Nutrition Recipe Box will provide tools and resources to help program operators navigate and implement standardized recipes. These resources will include:

- Search tools to find recipes using a variety of search filters, such as USDA Program, Cooking Equipment, Recipe Categories, and Cuisine, to help users identify recipes of interest to them;
- “Build My Cookbook” where users can save their favorite recipes to make a customized cookbook;
- Shopping list feature where users can create a list of groceries from the selected recipes’ ingredients; and
- Consumer-friendly features such as star ratings, recipe reviews, and options to share content on social media.

Visit the Child Nutrition Recipe Box at <https://theicn.org/cnr/b>

October: National Farm to School Month

Join the fun and learn why October is “National Farm to School” month. Thousands of schools, early care and education sites, farms, communities and organizations across the country will celebrate food education, school gardens and lunch trays filled with healthy, local ingredients. Explore the [national calendar of Farm to School Month](#) events to see how you can celebrate in your school.



Grant Opportunities

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) will make Agricultural Growth, Research and Innovation (AGRI) Farm to School and Early Care Grants available for K-12 institutions that participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and early care organizations that participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

The MDA will award up to \$400,000 to eligible organizations to increase the use of Minnesota grown and raised foods through planning and feasibility studies or equipment purchases and physical improvements. To learn about how past AGRI grantees have used their funds, and to apply for the

grant, visit:

- [Farm to School Grant Website](#)
- [Farm to Early Care Grant Website](#)

Applications for AGRI Farm to School and Early Care Grants must be submitted by 4 p.m. CST on November 7, 2019.

“Get Schools Cooking” Grant Opportunity

Get Schools Cooking (previously known as the School Food Support Initiative), a program of Chef Ann Foundation, provides school districts with technical assistance and funding to help transition their Food and Nutrition Service departments from a “heat and serve” or processed food model, to one that is rooted in scratch cooking using real ingredients. Through Get Schools Cooking, food service teams are guided through an intensive, three-year program. The 2019 grant application period closes at 6 p.m., Monday, October 28, 2019. Learn more about the grant on the [Chef Ann Foundation](#) website.

New: Buy American Fact Sheet

A new resource for school meals program operators on the Buy American Provision is now available. The provision requires SFAs to purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products. [View the Buy American Fact Sheet.](#)

See What All the Commotion is About: Discover the New Training Zone

SNA is pleased to introduce the new [Training Zone](#)! Located in the Learning Center on the SNA website, this new platform allows you to stream live and on-demand webinars, take evaluations, quizzes and print/download certificates all in one place. Now compatible with all web browsers, including Android and iOS’s browsers for smartphones, it’s easier than ever to get the training you need on the go and at your convenience. [Visit the Training Zone.](#)

SNF’s Ambassadors

To enable SNA state affiliates to support the School Nutrition Foundation (SNF), the SNF Ambassador Program was created. These State Ambassadors are integral at raising funds and awareness for the Foundation...and they have a friendly competition going on! The top state in each of SNA’s three membership categories who raise the most money from their State Association will win numerous prizes and recognition—including one free registration to SNA’s 2020 Annual National Conference in Nashville.

Every donation counts, and with fall conferences on the horizon, keep your eyes peeled for your State Ambassador to make a donation. Every donation will count toward the state’s end-of-year-total and will get your Ambassador one step closer in winning the competition. We have all the tools you need, check out the Tools, Tips and Talking Points [here](#). If you would like to become a SNF Ambassador, or co-ambassador for your state, please reach out to us by emailing snf@schoolnutrition.org.

Looking to Advance Your School Nutrition Career? Join SNA!



HERE'S HOW SNA MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS YOUR CAREER:

- Supportive community of colleagues to share best practices
- Free live & on-demand webinars
- Educational and conference scholarships
- Certificate and credentialing programs to enhance your career
- Meetings and conferences tailored to your needs
- Advocacy and legislative efforts

More information at
www.schoolnutrition.org/join

Feeding Bodies.
Fueling Minds.®

