



Oct/Nov 2019 Newsletter

COLORADO
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Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.™

Healthy Bites

Membership Drive

You could be a winner!

Recruit ONE or more new members between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020 and you will be automatically entered into a drawing to win a registration to SNA's 2021 Annual National Conference (ANC) in Chicago IL!

Don't Forget!

Make sure the new member writes your name in the referral section of the membership application, otherwise it won't count toward the campaign!

CSNA is thrilled to report that we now have over 1000 members! Thank you to everyone for supporting CSNA. We appreciate each and everyone of you!

*Thankful for
Our Members*



SAVE the DATE for CSNA's Summer Conference June 16-18, 2020

CSNA is excited to announce that we will be partnering with CDE and CDHS again in 2020!

Sponsorship auction for the One Plate Challenge will open on Dec 2nd. Details will be posted on our website.

Registration and all other sponsorships will open in mid February for Industry. District Registration will open early March.





Colorado State of Mind

**Robert Duran: Aurora Public
Schools**



It was a sunny day at the end of August 2018. I flew in to Denver International Airport (with some solid turbulence), picked up my rental car, and drove to my potential new job in Aurora Public Schools. As I was driving, I thought to myself, “this is the place I’ve always wanted to live. Lush streams, massive peaks, and more food and outdoor activities than I can possibly think of!” Then I also thought as I was driving to Aurora, “where are all the mountains”? Colorado is the state where the Great Plains meet the Rockies. It is full of great food and adventure. I have lived here for a little over a year now. I will take you through some of my favorite places, both restaurants and outdoor activities that are a must do and see being new to Colorado.

To become a true Coloradan you must indulge in delicious craft beer and spicy green chilies so one of my favorite places to indulge in a “one stop shop Colorado” is **Bull and Bush Brewery** (they even have Colorado Bison). If it’s a nice carb load meal you are looking for after hiking one of Colorado’s many 14ers, a stop at **Beau Jo’s Pizza** is the place to go. When I went I thought it was extremely strange dipping my crust into honey but turned out to be a delicious treat after a hearty meal. There are great neighborhoods around the Denver area to explore that have really delicious restaurants. Some of my favorites are in the RINO arts district, LoHi, and Wash Park. A great one outside the Denver area is **Slow Groovin BBQ** in Marble, Colorado where they make some of the best Colorado Barbeque in the state. Marble is an amazing little town in Gunnison County and is a must see to truly enjoy the beauty and adventure of the state.

When most people outside of Colorado think about the state, they think of endless hiking and recreation. One of my favorite places so far is the **Great Sand Dunes National Park**. It is an amazing sight from afar and as you drive closer, the dunes are incredible. I went during the early part of spring and was able to see the spring runoff that creates **Medano Creek**. Before I entered the park I stopped at a gift shop and rented a sand board. The hike up the dunes is long and somewhat challenging but worth the ride back down. Also approximately 6 miles from the dunes is another short worthwhile hike to **Zapata Falls**. **Rocky Mountain National Park** also a must see. I absolutely loved the scenery and **Bear Lake/Fern trail**. That trail has amazing views and is highlighted with a cool waterfall. Additionally, taking a trip down Trail Ridge Road was also a great sight. Another favorite hike of mine most recently was near Marble, Colorado called **Crystal Mill Trail**. The trail is a multi-use trail for both hiking and ATV. Even though it’s extremely rocky and dusty at times, it has incredible sights. The trail runs along the **Crystal River**. While you walk along the trail there are many waterfalls in the distance flowing from the many peaks we encountered. At the end of the trail you come to an old decommissioned mill known as **Crystal Mill**. It sits right alongside a 20 foot waterfall. The pool at the bottom is full of fish and great for fly fishing. Lastly, a must visit is Gunnison, Colorado. I personally loved it because it is the home of the biggest reservoir in the state, **Blue Mesa Reservoir**, and also has some incredible fly fishing spots. So yes, if you want to do as Coloradans do, fly fishing is a must. And don’t worry, there is a wonderful trail that runs the length of the **Gunnison River** which takes you in to **Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park**.

There are so many incredible places in Colorado. I definitely consider myself lucky to have seen a lot of the state. I hope whoever reads this visits some of the places I have mentioned and enjoys them as much as I have. Next things to conquer... white water rafting trip, snowboarding, and possibly a mountain train ride.



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PPL Updates

With the Holidays upon us, the 116th US Congress will be heading to their home states for a break, still without the renewal or reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Programs. Please remember that you can receive regular updates about the happenings in Washington DC if you sign up for the [SNA Action Network](#).

Also, if you have not already, please share your thoughts and make your voice heard in the [SNA 2020 Position Paper](#).

Locally, we are gearing up to see what the State General Assembly will have to offer in January. So far nearly [100 bills](#) have been discussed in the 17 Interim Committees formed over the summer.

We will be keeping a close eye to see if any bills pertaining to school meals pop up. Lots will be discuss about education funding, so you PP&L committee will keep you informed.

SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 27,
2020

**CSNA
DAY AT
THE
CAPITOL**





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SNA NATIONAL NEWS

LAC Registration is now open!

Early Bird Rates End Jan 3rd

<https://schoolnutrition.org/meetings/lac/2020/register/>



We Want Your Nominations!

Recognize a Colleague for an SNA Award. Every day SNA members are making an impact serving the students in their school districts. Recognize the hard work by nominating a colleague today for an SNA Award! Nominations for the Employee, Manager and Director of the Year awards are accepted online or directly to the State President by March 1, 2020. All state, regional and national winners will be recognized at the Red Carpet Awards Ceremony at SNA's 2020 Annual National Conference in Nashville, TN. <https://schoolnutrition.org/awards/>

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SNA Awards Program

Nominate a colleague you admire!

Awards for School Nutrition Professionals

Nominations are due by March 1, 2020*

**For more information,
please visit www.schoolnutrition.org/awards**

*Check SNA website for details



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CACFP UPDATE

2019 Annual Reports:

For the past 18 months, the Nutrition Services Branch (NSB) has worked on establishing a performance management system for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC).

Development of the system includes identifying overarching goals for the programs, selecting meaningful metrics and data sources and creating visual scoreboards to monitor progress. The performance management system allows NSB to see if programmatic strategies are providing expected results, helps us learn about our work and guide decisions to change course for better outcomes. The system has allowed us to identify gaps and where the programs could use help from partners.

You can find a summary of the goals and results in the 2019 Annual Reports, [WIC](#) and [CACFP](#). These reports will help communicate our priorities, progress and focus partnership efforts. They draw from our work through the past year to define and monitor our goals and highlight our larger WIC and CACFP goals that we've been monitoring. For future years, we will draw on the new data and evaluation infrastructure to highlight our progress to our goals on a yearly basis.

For questions, please see contact information throughout the reports.



COLORADO

Department of Public
Health & Environment



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Congratulations to Littleton Public Schools for being featured in this fantastic Washington Post article!

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2019/food/school-lunches-in-america/>



Mark Twain Elementary
Littleton, Colo.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 12-14, 2020
SNIC
Indian Wells, CA

June 16-18, 2020
CSNA Summer Conference
Loveland, CO

July 12-14, 2020
ANC
Nashville, TN

March 8-10, 2020
LAC
Washington, D.C.

September 23-25, 2020
CSNA Industry Seminar
Beaver Creek, CO



CSNA 2019-20 Industry Members

Thank you for Investing in CSNA

Trustee Members



Patron Members



DESERT PEAK MARKETING



CSNA 2018-19 Industry Members

Thank you for Investing in CSNA

Patron Members (continued)



My Kid's Lunch

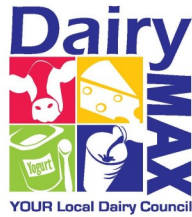


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