



Colorado School Nutrition Association

Making the right food choices, together.

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP TO SCHOOL NUTRITION PROFESSIONALS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

Wellness Grant Applications Now Being Accepted

Want to make a difference in wellness in your district? Then you should apply for one of three Wellness Grants that are awarded annually to CSNA members. This is a great way to promote wellness at your school and get more involved in your career in school nutrition.

In order to be eligible, you must be a current member of CSNA and either an employee or manager member level. The application is available on the CSNA Web site at www.colosna.com or call to have one emailed or mailed directly to you 303-993-8064.

“Let’s Grow Healthy” – National School Lunch Week

DON’T FORGET!!!! National School Lunch Week is October 10-14. The “School Lunch – Let’s Grow Healthy” member resource website www.schoolnutrition.org/grow is now live. Visit the site to download the tool-kit and view the regional recipes. Also available are logos, activity sheets, presentations and much more...

Fall Conference 2012—Back to the Future

Are you ready to have some fun??? Then don’t miss out on the CSNA Fall Conference – Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 at the Embassy Suites Loveland. Where else can you gain important information regarding your day to day job, share best practices with your

industry peers, see and sample new products from over 100 vendors AND see the current CSNA president, Shelly Allen, dressed in a poodle skirt for the Sock Hop!!! None of this is possible anywhere but the CSNA Fall Conference!!

Check out the CSNA Web site at www.colosna.com for further conference information, registration



materials and online registration. Questions: contact Jen Johnson at jen@colosna.com or 303-993-8064.

Photos from Fall Conference 2010 at the Crowne Plaza DIA. Above photo,; conference attendees enjoying the exhibit floor ; right photo: attendees at the Tai Chi workshop which taught members how to deal with stress and strengthen core muscles.



SNA Membership Dues Increase

SNA’s 2011 House of Delegates, meeting in July in Nashville, Tenn., approved an increase in national individual membership dues that will take effect October 1, 2011. The increase for each segment is anywhere from \$2-\$5.

While SNA’s leadership and management have worked hard to control costs and effectively manage the Association’s finances during the worst recession in decades, costs are beginning to increase, as the economy begins to improve. In the last 30 years, membership dues have increased only six times; dues were last increased in 2008.

SNA national membership continues to be an unbeatable bargain, given the many programs and services offered. On average, each member receives \$150 in services annually while only paying a fraction of that cost.



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Thank You to Our Newest Patron Member



Johnson Pike & Associates, Inc.
Representatives of Quality Food Service Equipment

ANC in Nashville Was Great – Denver Will Be Better in 2012!

With attendance exceeding 7,500 and nearly 800 exhibitors, ANC in Nashville was a HUGE success! For school nutrition professionals, this is our industry's biggest event of the year. Denver is proud to be the host city for ANC 2012!

If you have never attended ANC before, mark your calendars for July 15-18, 2012 as there's no more convenient way to attend then right here in your home state. Visit www.schoolnutrition.org for more details.

CSNA Questions?

Questions about items highlighted in the CSNA newsletter? Contact Jen Johnson, CSNA Executive Director, at 303-993-8064 or jen@colosna.com.

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Leaders in School Lunch

Every career has opportunities for advancement and professional growth. This month's featured *Leader in School Lunch* exemplifies how hard work, dedication and a desire to gain professional knowledge has built her career in school nutrition.

Susan Rivale is a great example of working your way up in the school nutrition profession. She started as a sub and cooks assistant in Pueblo West, and when her family moved she continued her school nutrition career in the Buena Vista school system. She continued as a sub until she was promoted to head cook and now is the supervisor for the Avery Parsons Elementary School.



For the last 9 years Susan Rivale has learned numerous lessons regarding how to be more successful in her career. She says the most important thing she has learned though is patience. "Not only with the students, teachers and fellow employees, but also with myself and my family. Like a really good recipe, these relationships take time to develop before they can be savored and relished for the years to come. I've learned that with patience all things are better."

One of her dreams is to take a trip to Switzerland to visit distant relatives. For professional growth, I think Susan should ask her Director to send her there to research school lunch processes in Switzerland. It never hurts to ask right!

Reauthorization—What's New

The CDE Nutrition Unit would like to offer everyone a big congratulations for having another successful school year (including any summer programs)—and good luck on the up-and-coming new school year!

Reauthorization has been at the forefront of our minds here at CDE, and I am sure the same is true for all of you in the school districts. As guidance is established, we continue to send out information; however, it can all become a lot to absorb while trying to start a new school year. There are a few changes that have taken place over the last eight months that should be implemented no later than this school year.

While everyone is approving applications and determining eligibility for students, please do not forget that this year a Direct Certification upload must be completed a minimum of three times during the school year. The deadline for the first upload is 4:00pm on Friday, September 9, 2011.

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Reauthorization—What's New continued from Page 2

Keep in mind that the more students who match on the Direct Certification Match Report, the fewer SNAP applications you will need to process. When it comes to the applications, there are two big changes that have taken place due to Reauthorization. In February of 2011, guidance was issued on foster children being considered categorically eligible. From that point forward, all foster children are considered categorically eligible for free meals regardless of personal use income. In addition, foster children may be listed on the same application as non-foster children—and districts are encouraged to work with their local counties to obtain lists of foster children in order to certify them for free meals. Also in February, our office provided guidance on several provisions for collecting social security numbers. For the free and reduced meal application, only the last 4 digits of the social security number must be provided, and for the Verification process, social security numbers no longer need to be collected at all for household members. Hopefully this new provision will encourage more families to apply for meal benefits.

Something I am sure everyone is focusing on during this insanely hot summer is water, and as a result of Reauthorization we will continue to have this on our minds throughout the school year! Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, potable water must be made available free of charge to all students during lunch. Students must have non-restricted access to water in the area that lunch is served/consumed. The USDA regulation on milk offered during breakfast and lunch has also changed. The previous regulation that required two different fat contents of milk be offered every day for lunch has been replaced; at this time two different varieties of milk must be offered. Also, beginning this year there must be two choices of milk available for breakfast every day.

Speaking of breakfast, all School Food Authorities (SFA) that participate in the School Breakfast Program must inform eligible families of the program just prior to or at the start of the school year. USDA also encourages SFAs to send reminders throughout the school year to promote participation in the program.

As always, providing students healthy, safe meals is the priority of our programs. With that in mind, USDA has continued to incorporate HACCP into Reauthorization. At this time HACCP principles must be applied to any facility/part of a facility where food is stored, prepared, or served for any federal nutrition service program. On the financial side of our program, Reauthorization is requiring districts to work toward achieving an equity in school lunch pricing. SFAs participating in the National School Lunch Program are required to provide the same level of support for lunches served to students who are not eligible for free and reduced price lunches (i.e., paid lunches) as they are for lunches served to students eligible for free and reduced price lunches. This provision does not apply to breakfast meal prices. The provision requires each SFA to compare the average price charged for paid lunches to the difference between the federal reimbursement provided for free lunches and the lower federal reimbursement provided for paid lunches. If the average paid lunch price is less than the difference, the SFA must either gradually adjust its average prices or provide for non-federal funding to cover that amount. Additionally, districts need to be looking at the cost of their non-program foods to ensure that the revenues from the sales of these foods generate the same proportion of SFA revenues as they contribute to costs. Two Excel tools were emailed to districts in July, to assist them with being in compliance with these two provisions.

The 2011-2012 school year is sure to be exciting and eventful!! As USDA continues to implement Reauthorization, we will provide guidance and direction to all of our SFAs. As soon as we hear about it, we will make sure you do too. Please continue to visit our website www.cde.state.co.us/index_nutrition.htm for new information and important events. As always, if any questions arise about Reauthorization or our programs in general, please call our office; we love hearing from you! **Article written by Lindsay Hucknall—Senior Consultant Nutrition Department, CDE 303.866.6871 hucknall_l@cde.state.co.us**