



August-Sept 2020 Newsletter

COLORADO
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ASSOCIATION

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Healthy Bites

In this issue:

- **President's Letter**
- **Industry Seminar**
- **Awards**
- **Get out the VOTE**
- **SNA News**
- **Facebook/Share your Story**

Save the Dates:

CSNA Industry Seminar

Oct 6-8, 2020

Virtual Event

CSNA Summer Conf

June 15-17, 2021

Pueblo, CO

President's Letter

Hello CSNA Membership-

With great appreciation, I thank you for allowing me to serve as your CNSA President for 2020-2021. This year is sure to present us with abundant uncertainties, unexpected challenges and boundless opportunities to innovate in ways we never thought possible.

I am extremely honored to be a part of this association and I know that we are a strong team of nutrition professionals here in Colorado. I have no doubt that we will work together to share best practices; to provide support and resources; and to feed and nourish the kids across our state. It is undoubtedly going to be a heavy lift, but I never question the passion and persistence of a school nutrition professional!

Personally, I have embraced the fact that things are going to change (constantly) and that my work to feed the students of Greeley-Evans Weld County School District 6 is going to need to pivot (frequently). This is not just the case for me here in Greeley. Instead, it is the case for individuals everywhere--across the state, across the nation and around the world.

I am a self-proclaimed planner. I like things boxed up and tied with a pretty bow. I would like nothing more than to share a precise plan for what the work of the CSNA Governing Board will focus on this year. However, the only thing I can promise right now is that I am confident in CSNA's abilities to serve as a strong resource to support school meal programs through these uncharted times.

As your President, I am committed to working diligently with our Governing Board to focus on efforts that have become more significant due to the current circumstances. Over the next year, CSNA will concentrate on- increasing the accessibility of professional development for CSNA members; increasing efforts to educate policy makers about school nutrition programs and initiatives; expanding partnerships with allied partners and stakeholders; and providing innovative leadership.

I adore challenges and I see them only as opportunities to grow. An African Proverb states, "Smooth seas do not make skillful sailors." Together, let's receive this year as a time to hone our skills as school nutrition professionals.

Humbled & Excited~

Kara Sample, RDN, SNS





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CSNA VIRTUAL INDUSTRY SEMINAR OCT 6-8, 2020

CSNA's first ever Virtual Industry Seminar is taking place next week! Oct 6-8 we will be "Unmasking the Future" with two engaging General Sessions, a fun and friendly Game Night, and some Flash Networking with our Industry Partners.

Tuesday, we will kick off with our first general session "Navigating Student and Staff Social-Emotional Health During COVID." Is a smile behind a mask still a smile? This session will explore how COVID has changed the way we interact with each other and the implications this has on the social emotional well being of our staff and the students we serve. In this session, you'll explore how to effectively maintain and build positive, lasting relationships with students and staff while dealing with the social challenges of COVID. Plus, learn strategies to apply self-care and manage stress for your own social-emotional well being.

Thursday for our second general session, we will feature SNA's President Elect, Beth Wallace and Urban School Food Alliance Director of Operations, Jeremy West. "Child Nutrition in Thick of COVID 19 and Beyond" What does life look like after we weather this storm? This session will discuss the legislative efforts that have come to fruition in order to make feeding kids in a pandemic possible, what might the pandemic do to the Child Nutrition supply chain, and what do we see as the future of Child Nutrition in light of these challenges. Hear from two experts in our industry who we are lucky to call our neighbors here in Colorado.

Please visit our conference page on our website for full details <https://www.colosna.com/IndustrySeminar2020.aspx>





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SNA AWARDS! **LET'S CELEBRATE!**

CSNA would like to thank everyone who took the time to nominate their colleagues for the 2020 SNA Awards.

We are thrilled to announce that **Tony Jorstad**, Director of Nutrition from 27j, was Colorado's Director of the Year for 2019/2020.

Nominations are now being accepted for 2020-2021

<https://schoolnutrition.org/Membership/Awards/MemberAwards/>





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Legislative Updates



USDA Publishes SFSP Reimbursement Waiver and Q&A on SFSP/SSO

On September 11, 2020, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) released two documents:

Nationwide Waiver to “[Allow Reimbursement for Meals Served Prior to Notification of Approval and Provide Flexibility for Pre-approval Visits in the Summer Food Service Program \(SFSP\).](#)” This waiver allows SFSP operators to forgo the requirement that reimbursements shall not be paid for meals served at a site before the sponsor has received written notification that the site has been approved for participation. This waiver expires on December 31, 2020.

[Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option Operations through December 2020.](#) This memorandum includes questions and answers intended to provide clarification to State Agencies and program operators on issues related to recently published waivers for SFSP and SSO during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Get out the Vote

Please encourage your staff to register to vote in the upcoming election!

Every Vote counts!





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National School Lunch Week October 12-16, 2020



The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) serves nearly **30 million** children every school day. President John F. Kennedy created National School Lunch Week (NSLW) in 1962 to promote the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child's life and the impact it has inside and outside of the classroom. The COVID-19 pandemic has without a doubt shown just how incredibly important school meals are for students and their families.

During this annual weeklong celebration, SNA members and students around the country will find new ways to safely celebrate in their schools and districts with special menus, events, student activities and more.

The 2020 NSLW theme ***Now Playing: School Lunch!*** Will put a spotlight on hit menu items that kids love while capitalizing on the popularity of movies to appeal to students in all grade levels.

SNA's #NSLW20 campaign offers the "big picture" of tools and resources, including downloadable artwork and social media tips, to help you plan a successful celebration in a new operating environment and promote your program to students, parents and the local community.

Recognizing NSLW in your school and district helps you:

- Increase student participation
- Spread the message to parents that you're serving healthy, delicious lunch at school
- Earn media coverage from local papers, TV stations and bloggers. Connect with teachers and administrators at your school or in your district to spread the word that school meals are healthy and delicious

Visit SNA's Toolkit for tons of great ideas to implement in your cafeterias during this fun week!

<https://schoolnutrition.org/meetings/events/nslw/2020/toolkit-handouts/>

There are two types of blueberries.
PICK WILD!

WILD BLUEBERRIES Give Schools More!

- More flavor that students love
- More value – 25% more servings per pound*
- More variety with recipes beyond breakfast

Serve at:

sweet sauce → savory dip → pizza

* Source: 2016 USDA Food Buying Guide Additional Yield Information for School Meals.

Order the USDA frozen blueberry that gives you MORE!

USDA Foods Product Numbers:
30 lbs.—Item #100243 | (8) 3 lbs.—Item #100242

Recipes, Resources and More at Wildblueberries.com/schoolfoodservice

Wild Blueberries



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Don't miss out... Start Following CSNA on Facebook!! & Share your Story

Now more than ever, please SHARE YOUR STORY! We know you are all doing great things and we would love to hear about them!

In 2020, CSNA is continuing the “CSNA: Share Your Stories” campaign to facilitate the sharing of stories across all Colorado school districts that inspire, inform, and elevate how we are feeding our students and operating our programs. Nutrition programs in school districts across Colorado have a tremendous opportunity to learn from one another and enhance their own programs based on the stories, practices and experiences of other districts. CSNA would like to continue to provide this opportunity in 2020.

Over the course of the next several months, CSNA is asking again for you to submit your exceptional stories that have positively impacted the lives of children, staff and the communities they live in. We are looking to collect stories as well as photos and videos to best communicate and share out these stories.

We are asking for your stories that surround the following topics:

- Inspiring Students - how have some of your staff inspired students?
- Inspiring Staff - how has your staff member/kitchen manager/supervisor/director inspired you?
- Inspiring Innovations - what types of innovations are present in your kitchen (school gardens, farm to school programs, student engagement, grab and go programs, etc.)

[Click here to share your story today!](#)

Don't miss out, submit your story and like our page today!

Find us on Facebook [@colosna](#)

**SHARE YOUR
STORIES**



BIG and small



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Thank you for Investing in CSNA

Trustee Members



Let's Create Great Dishes Together!®



CSNA 2020-21 Industry Members

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