



COLORADO
SCHOOL
NUTRITION
ASSOCIATION

Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.™

Dec 2021-Jan 2022 Newsletter

Healthy Bites

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

We have started a new year, but it certainly feels like we are still wading through the chaos and challenges of the last year and a half. Personally, I am not one to read affirmations or inspirational quotes on a regular basis, but as I was writing this letter thinking about all we have been through and all there is to come, I began to search for some thoughts about beginning the new year with (more) change, new beginnings, and a sense of optimism. A few that resonated with me were:



"In order to be successful in the new year, stay focused, develop a positive attitude and be passionate with your dreams."- Bamigboye Olurotimi, and "Be willing to be a beginner every single morning."- Meister Eckhart

So, as we look to the new year and what it has in store for us, I would like to share some CSNA and SNA news.

SNIC in San Antonio wrapped up last week and what a joy it was to be back in person for a national conference. It was great to see familiar faces, make new connections and hear from some fabulous speakers about labor trends, collaborating more effectively in the digital age and supply chain solutions.

LAC, March 6-8, is also scheduled to be an in-person event. While some restrictions are in place, we still plan on having a robust delegation from Colorado. If you have not already registered there is still time. Be ready to meet with our legislators and advocate for our school nutrition programs and the communities we serve. I would like to acknowledge our LAC scholarship winners. Congratulations to Rachel Hurshman, Miranda Martin, Janet Fogel, and Jo Ellen Mitchell for receiving the CSNA LAC scholarships. And congratulations to Tara Gonzales. Tara was one of two SNA members to receive the SNF Josephine Martin National Policy Fellowship.

Save the date for our summer conference. Back in Loveland, June 15-16, this conference promises to "Illuminate the Possibilities" for our members. It will be great to be reconnect in person for this conference and to engage with industry partners and fellow operators. The Conference and Education Committee is planning an array of classes that will give you practical ideas, solutions and takeaways to implement back in your district. The One Plate Challenge will be another great highlight of this event. Registration open Mid Feb for Industry and early March for Districts via our CSNA website.

I reiterate what I have written in previous updates that school nutrition professionals are a resilient and talented group. I am constantly amazed at the work we do to make sure the students in our state and around the country receive nourishing meals every school day. And all while coping with a pandemic, natural disasters, and a strained supply chain. Hearing your stories and seeing firsthand how this group problem solves, works together and shares successes makes me proud to be in this field of work.

Thank you~ Amy Faricy, RD, SNS : 2021-22 CSNA President



CSNA Summer Conference

SAVE THE DATE!

We are happy to announce that the CSNA Summer Conference will return to the Embassy Suites in Loveland, CO for two days of educational sessions, keynote speakers and networking events on June 15 and 16, 2022.

This year's theme **Illuminate The Possibilities** will focus on lighting our way forward and discovering that anything is possible. We will also take time to honor the difficult path that has brought us here, share stories and innovations that our colleagues are making to provide the next generation with the nourishment they need to succeed.

We are excited to bring you an agenda with engaging and informative breakout sessions, a food and equipment show with the latest products to help us reach for what is possible and exciting networking events including our annual viewing of this year's One Plate Challenge.

To kick off the Summer Conference, we will offer a variety of Pre-Conference sessions and the School Nutrition Specialist (SNS) Credentialing Exam on Tuesday June 14th.

*Registration for SNS must take place directly through SNA

Conference details and sponsorship opportunities can be found on our website www.colosna.com. Registration will open in Mid Feb 2022 for Industry and Early March for Districts.

Let's **Illuminate The Possibilities** together.

Molly Brandt, RD, SNS
CSNA President Elect and Conference Chair 2021-22





CSNA 2022 Ballot

Announcement

CSNA is thrilled to announce Sarah Blaida as our candidate for the 2022/2023 Vice President position! Voting will be open on the CSNA Website from March 1-22, 2022



Current Position: Nutrition Manager of Operations, Adams 12 Five Star Schools

Education/Credentials: Registered Dietitian. Bachelor of Arts and Graduate Certificate in Dietetics, School Nutrition Specialist

Leadership experience and skills that will enable me to make a strong contribution to the Association:

As a young professional, I have worked within School Nutrition for 6 years, starting in Minnesota and relocating to Colorado four years ago. In my role of Operations Manager for Adams 12 Five Star Schools, I oversee menu development, regulatory compliance, and procurement with a variety of special projects.

In my years of experience in Colorado, I have been involved with CSNA in multiple capacities, starting on the Membership and Marketing Committee and now serving as a member of the Public Policy and Legislative Committee. Having attended and spoken at different conferences, both within Colorado and nationally as well, I feel I am ready to be your next Vice President.

I would bring my experiences within operations, communication, and leadership to lead CSNA forward. In recent months our organization has experienced unprecedented change and challenges; I hope to provide leadership and guidance via public policy, increasing resources, and expanding our membership network to ensure we can tackle the months and years ahead.



GOALS

1. Ensure CSNA maintains and grows involvement within state and national policy and legislation to remain a forefront resource for members.
2. Increase comprehensive online resources for members to provide professional development and best practice sharing.
3. Grow membership and committee participation, especially within under-represented regions and small districts.



MEET

MONICA DEINES- HENDERSON

SNA VICE PRESIDENT

Director of Nutrition Services –
El Paso County SD 49
Peyton, Colorado

NATIONAL AND LOCAL SNA POSITIONS

- Southwest Regional Director, SNA 2017–2020
- Vice President, President Elect, President, Past President: CSNA 2008–2012
- Public Policy & Legislation Committee Chair, Co-Chair, Member: CSNA 2010–2017
- Education Committee: CSNA 2007–2010

OTHER MEMBERSHIPS

- Colorado ASBO Board of Directors, Director 2016–2021
- ACDA Co-Chair for Credentialing 2020–present
- Rockies Purchasing Services, Board President 2014–2021
- Rocky Mountain Feather Fanciers, Board President 2014–2021
- El Paso County Fair Board Chair & Secretary 2005–2012

HONORS

- Colorado SNA Director of the Year 2016
- SNA Gold Award of Service

**VOTE
FEB 15–28**

What I believe I could bring to the SNA Board of Directors

I would have to say my greatest strength is being a quiet listener who puts great stock in the value of others' views and collecting all the facts before coming to a decision. Decisions that are made with the involvement of others to create "buy-in" and "accountability". Alongside of this trait, I am not afraid to make critical decisions on my own to set the direction needed for an organization to move forward when the topic or time don't allow for input from others.



PP&L Updates

“A New Era in School Nutrition” equals opportunities for change! Be a part of advocacy in action in the nation’s capital when you attend SNA’s Legislative Action Conference (LAC), March 6-8, 2022 in Washington, D.C. Registration is now open!

LAC is your opportunity to:

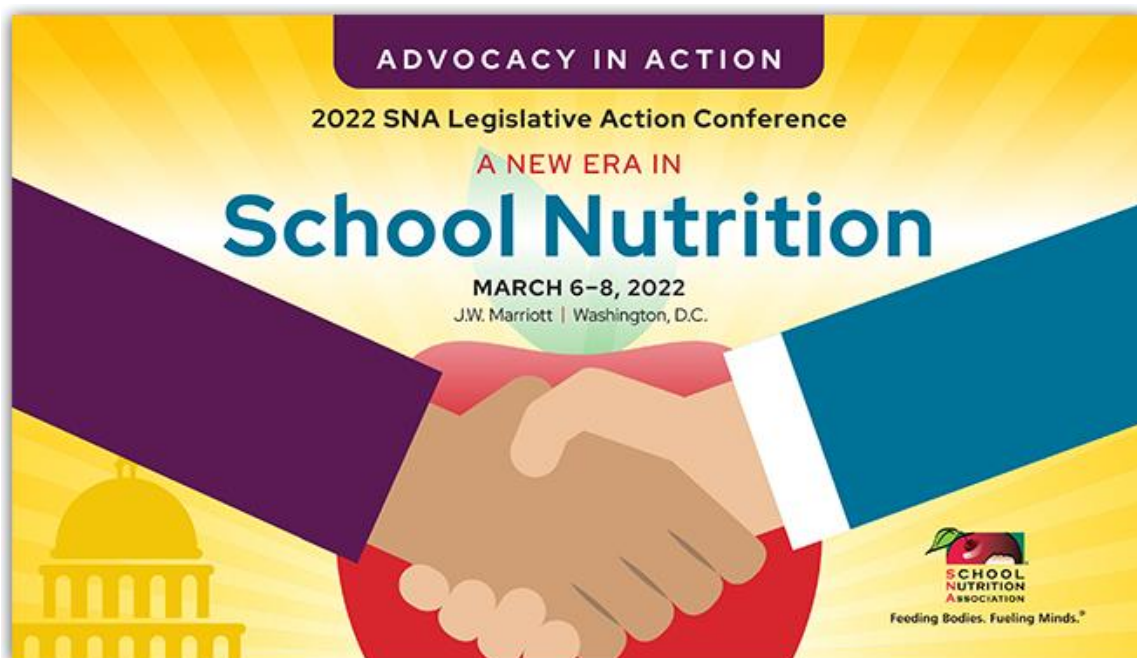
- Build and grow relationships that will shape federal policy for school nutrition.
- Meet with your legislators to increase their understanding and knowledge of the scope and complexity of school nutrition programs.
- Join forces with hundreds of SNA members and school nutrition advocates to make a positive impact on the future of child nutrition programs.

At this premier gathering, you’ll hear from Washington insiders and compelling keynote speakers, including political analyst, Amy Walter.

REGISTER TODAY

SNA 2022 POSITION PAPER: Please take a moment to review SNA’s 2022 Position Paper and talking points document. This is a key resource to reference when advocating for your School Nutrition programs.

2022 Position Paper





SNA AWARDS

Nominations Due March 1

SNA Member Awards

An Exciting New Look!

Effective September 2021, the School Nutrition Association has made some major changes to the SNA Awards Program so all members can be recognized for their hard work to ensure well-nourished students across the country are prepared for success.

Nominations must be submitted online by Tuesday, March 1, 2022*. There are SNA awards to recognize every member type:

Employee of the Year Award

Manager of the Year Award, in honor of Louise Sublette

Director of the Year Award

National Industry Member of the Year Award

What's Changing?

When you nominate for an award, there will be many new changes we hope you'll enjoy! You will notice that the applications are now all digital and are supported through the awards platform, Submittable. This new platform will now give you as a nominator the:

- Ability to nominate an individual without completing the entire application;
- Ability to collaborate with your nominee(s) on the application (optional);
- A streamlined application form(s); and
- The timeline of activities for nominees and state affiliates.

We have also made some changes to make the awards more inclusive and accessible, so with that we are excited to announce we:

- Allow self-nominations.
- Will use an ad-hoc committee of volunteers for regional judging.
- Removed certificate requirement for the Employee of the Year (EOY) and Manager of the Year (MOY) Awards, and will use points in the scoring rubric to give the nominee credit for having the certificate.
- Removed requirements for a certificate or credential and service on state or national committee or board for the Director of the Year (DOY) Award, and use points in the scoring rubric to give the nominee credit for having these qualifications.
- Shortened the membership requirement to three (3) years for the DOY Award.





Celebrations and Congratulations

With all the struggles that 2020 brought to our daily lives CSNA would like to take some time to focus on the positive!

Each newsletter we will have this space dedicated to celebrate our personal and professional accomplishments.

Please send your celebrations to jodi@colosna.com.

We are looking for all types of congratulatory events ...

- Promotions!
- Graduations!
- Weddings, babies, grandbabies!
- US Citizenships!
- Mountains climbed, marathons ran!
- Happy customer compliments!
- Bucket list items!
- Daily Highlights!
- No event is too big or too small ... send it over and we'll add to the list



Congratulations to CSNA's Sec/Treasurer Jen Peifer!!

Jen and her husband Josh welcomed their second daughter to their family Nov 10, 2022. Delilah Leah Peifer was born just in time to celebrate the holidays with her family.

A second congratulations is also due to Jen, she will be stepping into a new role at Douglas County as Director of Nutrition Services when she returns from maternity leave in February. With all of the practice she has had in the last two years, it seems Jen has really embraced change. Congratulations Jen on your growing family and new position!

CSNA 2021-22 Industry Members

Thank you for Investing in CSNA

Trustee Members



CSNA 2021-22 Industry Members

Thank you for Investing in CSNA

Patron Members



DESERT PEAK MARKETING



PEPSICO
FOODSERVICE



TICA'S
FOODS



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