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## June-July 2020 Newsletter

# Healthy Bites

### In this issue:

- **President's Letter**
- **Industry Seminar Update**
- **Awards**
- **PPL Update**
- **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

I hope this letter finds you all well. In these uncertain times I find myself searching for words. I wake up every morning as you all do with a choice to make, to move through this time with fear in my mind or with faith that it is all going to work out as it has in our world history time and time again. Tragedy is something that is a part of our lives and what determines us as human beings is how we respond to it. My friends we have ALL collectively responded as Superhero's and Essential personnel!

I have received several texts, emails and phone calls with questions regarding how I feel or my opinions on what is going on in these unpredictable times. My response is always the same, I am taking it one day at a time and choosing to walk in faith & hope not fear!

Also during these times I want to say that **YOU are NOT alone!** If you need to talk, reach out to someone. If you need to PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE call or text me directly 303-915-7764. In these times we tend to work so hard that we forget that there are others doing the same hard work just a few miles up the road or a phone call away. Please do not ever feel like reaching out for HELP is a sign you can not do it, it is truly a sign of strength that you have a network of professionals who understand and support one another, we are all better stronger TOGETHER.

I am continually blessed and encouraged to complete my 2019-2020 as your President. My consistent promise to you always is to serve this association and all of its members with Passion and Positivity for the next year as your Past President. [scsolomon@aurorak12.org](mailto:scsolomon@aurorak12.org) Please always know I WELCOME feedback and communication do not hesitate to reach out :)

Be Safe, Be Well and Take Care of **YOU!**

Remember, just like flight attendants tell us on an airplane, you can't help the children around you until you put your oxygen mask on first, self care is CRITICAL in times like these. Please take care of yourselves my friends. May your days be filled with Love, Laughter and Blessings Always!

*Shannon C Solomon, MS, SNS*  
2019-2020 CSNA President





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# **CSNA INDUSTRY SEMINAR** **and THANK YOU's!**

CSNA is saddened to announce that we will be moving our 5th Annual Industry Seminar to a Virtual Event. We were hopeful that by this fall in-person gatherings would be able to take place, but after much deliberation we have come to the conclusion that the time is not right yet. However, we are VERY excited to announce that we are going to take this event VIRTUAL!

Please SAVE the DATE - **October 6-8, 2020** for “Unmasking the Future”

Seminar details will be released shortly and registration will be open early August via the website. We plan to host Flash Networking virtually and also will present two engaging General Sessions.



These past months have been beyond difficult in numerous ways for all of us. CSNA would like to take a moment to THANK each and every one of you that has stepped up to the plate to make sure that children and families in our community have access to nutritious meals. Meetings and conferences are our way to get together and celebrate each other as well as learn from one another. Not having that opportunity this year was difficult. We will be setting up a section on the website to celebrate your successes during this time, please send stories and photos that you would like to share to

[jodi@colosna.com](mailto:jodi@colosna.com).

CSNA would also like to take a moment to sincerely thank our Industry Members that have been able to support our association during this time, we understand that the financial impact of COVID-19 is far reaching and we truly appreciate those that were able to continue their support to our association via Trustee, Patron and Sustainer memberships. If you have not yet had the chance to renew your Industry Membership for 2020-21 and are still interested and able please reach out to [jodi@colosna.com](mailto:jodi@colosna.com)





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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 **Christi Brown** from Adams 12 Five Star was selected as the Southwest Region Manager of the Year! CONGRATULATIONS CHRISTI!

**Steven Ebright** from Jeffco and **DeeAnna Johnson** from Aurora Public were also nominated in the Manager category

**Tony Jorstad** from Brighton 27j was nominated for the Director of the Year category.

We are so blessed to have such superstars in our great state!





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# Legislative Updates



## New and Extended SY 2020-21 COVID-19 Waivers

The U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced the extension of multiple COVID-19 emergency feeding waivers to last through the end of 2020-2021 School Year. The extension of these waivers will allow school meal programs to continue grab-and-go meal pick up for distance learners, serve meals to students in the classroom or adjust meal service in the event of sudden COVID-19 school closures. The waivers that have been extended include:

[Nationwide Non-congregate Feeding Waiver](#)

[Nationwide Meal Pattern Waiver](#)

[Nationwide Parent/Guardian Meal Pick-Up Waiver](#)

[Nationwide Meal Times Waiver](#)

Additionally, USDA announced a [new waiver](#) to address offer versus serve requirements at the high school level. Read more in SNA's [press release](#). For up to date information, check out [SNA's Action Network page](#) on USDA FNS Waivers and Guidance for full details on waivers and extensions.

## SNA Advocates for Funding to Offset Losses

SNA joined 37 allied organizations in a letter to the U.S. House and Senate Appropriations Committees advocating for funding to help offset financial losses for school meal programs due to COVID-19 closures. The letter urges Congress to provide \$2.6 billion to mitigate a portion of the estimated, significant loss that school nutrition programs have and will continue to experience. Funding must be provided to make programs financially solvent and to maintain the integrity of these essential programs as the recovery process begins, with many more children relying on school meal programs. Read the [complete letter](#)



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# SNA Publishes Resource for SY 2020-21 Scenario Planning

## Dear SNA Members:

It's June and many of you are asking, "What's next?" What will school look like in SY2020-21—and what will the impact be on school meal operations? Some of you are expecting it will be the most challenging year of your career, as school administrators contemplate dramatic changes to reduce the risk of infection outbreaks until a COVID-19 vaccine or effective treatment is available.

While there is a long, frustrating history of school administrators failing to consider the complexities of school meal programs in any calculus about system changes, SNA is encouraged to learn that some school nutrition directors have been invited to participate on district and state taskforces about reopening. In addition, we are aware of many school nutrition teams that have initiated scenario-planning discussions of their own, so they can be ready for whatever decisions are handed down. Still, we know that there are many, many other school nutrition operators who don't know where to begin.

That's why we have produced Thought Starters on Reopening Schools for SY2020-21, a 25-page resource designed to help SNA members "ask the right questions to prepare for the next normal." Considering the complexity of school meal programs and the incredible disparity in how school districts of different sizes and demographics manage these programs, one publication can't begin to cover all the bases. But it will point you in the right direction to start thinking about the many ways your operation will have to change.

A link to a free, downloadable PDF is included with this e-blast. You can read [Thought Starters on Reopening Schools for SY2020-21](#) on your device or print out a hard copy.

Share it with team members and other stakeholders as desired. We simply ask that if you share outside of the school nutrition community, credit always be provided to the School Nutrition Association.

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](http://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!**

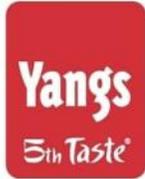
**Find us on Facebook [@colosna](#)**



# CSNA 2019-20 Industry Members

Thank you for Investing in CSNA

## Trustee Members



## Patron Members



# CSNA 2019-20 Industry Members

Thank you for Investing in CSNA

## Patron Members (continued)



# My Kid's Lunch

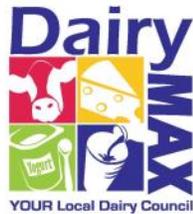


## Sustainer Members

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Primero *edqs*

