



SNAC Bites

October 2017 Edition

Welcome to the October 2017 issue of SNA Communication (SNAC) Bites! SNAC Bites highlights new SNA programs and provides content for your state association publications, chapter meetings, & social media.

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1. Connect the Pieces at #SNIC18: Registration is Now Open!

What do YOU need to solve your own school nutrition puzzles? SNA's [School Nutrition Industry Conference](#) (SNIC), January 21-23, 2018 in New Orleans is designed to help you identify the missing pieces.

There's one thing you can say of those who embrace a career in the K-12 school nutrition segment—whether as an operator or an industry partner—you relish a good challenge! That's because school nutrition is arguably the most complex foodservice business. The variety of factors at play are reminiscent of a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle. Start putting the pieces together for a clear picture at this high-level meeting that offers three days of unparalleled learning and networking.

To learn more and to register, visit www.schoolnutrition.org/snic. Don't delay—the early bird registration deadline is **November 10, 2017**.

2. FAME Awards Deadline Extended!

If you're attending SNA's [School Nutrition Industry Conference](#) in New Orleans, you won't want to miss the 2018 Annual Foodservice Achievement Management Excellence (FAME) Awards and Dinner. And perhaps you know a school nutrition leader or innovator who deserves to be [nominated](#) for a FAME national award? Celebrating achievement helps to inspire everyone at this critical time for school nutrition programs. Make time to recognize top colleagues. The nomination deadline has been extended to **October 10, 2017**. [Learn more](#).

3. National School Lunch Week Kicks Off Next Week!

National School Lunch Week (NSLW) is next week—October 9-13! This year's theme, "School Lunch: Recipes for Success," will help you tell your school lunch story, including the 'secret ingredients' to your success! Share with students, parents, and school officials during NSLW to show them what makes your school lunch program special. Use our tools, tip sheets, and other materials—and a generous dollop of your own creative inspiration—



for a fantastic #NSLW17 celebration. Visit www.schoolnutrition.org/NSLW today.

4. Nominate Someone You Admire for an SNA Award

Are you inspired by your school nutrition colleagues, friends and mentors? Nominate someone you admire for an SNA Award for the 2017-18 school year. [Nominations](#) for the Employee, Manager and Director of the Year awards are now being accepted online by SNA. Being nominated for an SNA Award is a great honor. All state, regional and national winners will be recognized at the Red Carpet Awards Ceremony at SNA's 2018 Annual National Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

5. Let's Recruit and Win! Join the 2017 Back to School Membership Drive

Our state association is participating in this year's [Back to School Membership Drive](#), and we could win big! This drive began on September 1, 2017 and will end on November 30, 2017. Our state association could win a free registration to SNA's 2018 National Leadership Conference in Long Beach, CA—so, help us recruit more members.

You could be a winner, too! Recruit five or more new members between **June 1, 2017** and **May 31, 2018** and you will be automatically entered into a drawing to win 1 of 5 VIP registrations to SNA's 2019 Annual National Conference (ANC) in St. Louis, MO.* Let's [recruit](#) and win together! Visit

www.schoolnutrition.org/membership/recruitment/2017-18-annual-membership-campaign for more information and complete rules.

**VOID WHERE RESTRICTED OR PROHIBITED BY LAW.*

6. "Fall" Into SNA Webinars this Season!

Cozy up to SNA's Fall webinars and earn CEUs that meet Professional Standards and can be used towards the Certificate and Credentialing programs. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in these upcoming webinars.

- Wednesday, October 4, 2017, 2:00 pm ET: [USDA Hot Topics: Flexibilities in the Child Nutrition Programs-School Meals & CACFP](#)
- Wednesday, October 11, 2017, 2:00 pm ET: [Community Eligibility: Strategies to Improve your ISP](#)
- Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 2:00 pm ET: [Ask the Expert: Food Allergies Edition](#)

7. Save the Date: SNA's Virtual Expo Launches on February 6, 2018

Get ready...SNA's Virtual Expo launches on February 6, 2018. This free, virtual trade show will be accessible to attendees from February 6 –March 16, 2018.

This unique experience is open to all SNA members, and it will provide access to content twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Going virtual allows you to visit as often as you'd like from the comfort of your own computer. A few conference highlights include:

- Virtual Exhibit Hall: Explore products and services from up to 50 exhibitors
- Learning Center: Access education sessions you may have missed from SNA's Annual National Conference in 2017
- Networking Lounge: Meet and chat with other attendees and easily exchange contact information



Free registration opens January 2018. Be on the lookout for the registration link on the SNA website and other Association communication outlets.

8. STEPS October Challenge: Fall for More Fruit!

Join in and reward yourself for avoiding temptation by filling up on fresh fruit to satisfy your sweet tooth. Give yourself one (1) point for every serving of fruit you have this month. At the end of the month, be sure to add up your points and enter them online at www.schoolnutrition.org/STEPS – you could win a prize!

9. Don't Miss the Opportunity to Nominate a School Nutrition Hero for 2018!

We need you to help identify the School Nutrition Heroes to be recognized at the [5th Annual Celebration of School Nutrition Heroes](#), which will be held on Monday, March 5, 2018, during SNA's Legislative Action Conference in Washington, D.C. Tell us about the people who go "above and beyond" the everyday duties of the school nutrition program to contribute and make a difference to their school and/or their community.

If you know of such an individual, please review the [Call for Nominations FAQs](#) and then simply fill out the [Online Nomination Form](#). If you prefer, you may also download and complete the [Nomination Form](#) and submit via email to snf@schoolnutrition.org. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, October 27, 2017!**

10. Action Alert: Ask Your Members of Congress to Support School Breakfast Commodities!

Recently, Congressmen Jim McGovern (D-MA) and Rodney Davis (R-IL) introduced [H.R. 3738, otherwise known as the Healthy Breakfasts Help Kids Learn Act of 2017](#). The bill provides commodity support for the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and will allow more students to benefit from a nutritious school breakfast while enjoying a wider variety of American-grown foods. Getting commodity support and expanding U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foods to support the SBP was a key priority in SNA's [2017 Position Paper](#), and SNA worked hard to help bring this bill to fruition. It's important for you to reach out to your Members of Congress to request their support on this bill, so that they know it is valuable to members of their constituency, and so they see the benefits it will serve their community. Use [SNA's Action Alert](#) to send your message to your Representatives urging them to support the Healthy Breakfasts Help Kids Learn Act of 2017, and support the School Breakfast Program! See [SNA's press release](#) to learn how the bipartisan bill will support America's students and farmers.

11. School Nutrition Professionals Recognized in Congress

SNA was honored to collaborate with Congressman Rodney Davis (R-IL) in developing a [special recognition](#) for school nutrition professionals, which Rep. Davis delivered in the United States House of Representatives on Tuesday, September 12, 2017. The recognition highlighted all the important work that school nutrition professionals do every school day to ensure that children are eating healthy, balanced meals that enable them to succeed and work their hardest in the classroom. School nutrition staff are a vital part of the education system and you should take special pride in the work you do feeding millions of children and making their lunchroom experience an enjoyable one. SNA, and Congressman Davis on behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, are enormously proud to honor you and recognize your hard work!