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Missouri School Nutrition Association



Spring 2023



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President's Corner



Happy Spring! I am truly honored to be serving as your 2022-2023 MSNA President. I am happy and excited to be working with such an exceptional group of members. Whether it is staffing shortages, shortages of products, or budget shortfalls, having the ability to bend under pressure and maintain integrity is something I strive for every day. Knowing where your breaking point is and how to reduce the stress can take years of experience that I don't have yet. Every challenge presents an opportunity to shape your program for the better. I am confident MSNA and its members will provide the innovative leadership to prepare our association to be incredibly successful in this ever-changing industry.



MSNA and SNA provide members educational opportunities on relevant and substantive topics. Programs and learning forums are shaped by our unique industry needs for you as school nutrition program operators. We will continue to seek diverse and informative programming with focus on getting back to normalcy by boldly returning to basics.



Yes, it has been a challenging time, but I am confident we will come out of it stronger and more determined to take our programs in a better direction. I want to celebrate all our successes as school nutrition operators. I know it has been hard work and stressful, but it is time to celebrate you for all your hard work and dedication.



I attended LAC in Washington, D.C. to urge Congress for support of our programs. We requested more funds, the ability to offer free meals for all students and preserve the current school nutrition standards. School meal programs are facing persistent financial, supply chain and labor challenges, as well as rising unpaid meal debt, declining student participation, and increased paperwork requirements due to the loss of free meals for all students.



MSNA's work is focused on enriching your experience as a member, so we are always open to feedback on current resources or how we can better serve. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time. I look forward to this year of outstanding achievements together. Celebrate your accomplishments in your nutrition programs!



Linda Webster
MSNA 2022-2023 President



Industry Newsletter



**Andy Dudenhoeffer, MSNA Industry Partners Committee Chair
and Central Division Director of Sales, Synergy Food Sales**

Hello fellow School Foodservice Professionals and Industry Partners!

If you know me, then you also know that the spring season is my absolute favorite time of the year! I claim to be an outdoorsman, and this is when the turkey starts gobbling, morel mushrooms start popping, and the fish start biting. It's such a refreshing time when a seemingly never-ending winter comes to an end. With warmer temperatures, rain showers and breezy days comes new life, green grass, and longer days. It doesn't get any better in my opinion.

Spring also symbolizes the end of a cycle and the start of another. For professionals in our niche, the cycle ending happens to be the close of the school year with the next school year on the horizon. For lack of other words, let's call this the season of "overlap". This industry never sits idle for too long. Not many foodservice segments have the entire next year's budget created, approved, and forecasts completed this far in advance. It's a remarkable feat and it takes an army to complete this task annually. I know that for many of us, this time of the year is dreaded because of this task at hand. If we learned anything from the two years living in a COVID world, it's that our industry is resilient! **WE can grind. WE can succeed.** After going through the last "terrible two" years, it should make the process of bid season much less daunting. Speaking on behalf of our industry partners, we appreciate all your time and efforts in putting these bids and forecasts together. We understand how much time this takes.

It's been a breath of fresh air seeing faces that I haven't seen in a while at food shows and market visits. I've witnessed smiles, compassion, and love for what we do! In a way, the pandemic that ultimately kept us away from each other, in the end brought us together closer than before. Let's close out the 2022-2023 school year stronger than ever, which will inevitably lead to a smooth start for 2023-2024!

Moving into the next school year, I want to encourage you to attend the Missouri School Nutrition Association Annual Conference, which will be held **October 13-15, 2023** at the **Holiday Inn Executive Center – Columbia, MO**. As an association, we are actively recruiting more vendors to make this exhibit hall the best yet! If you have a neighboring school district that has never attended this conference, please invite them to come! We love our current members, but new faces are always welcome!

Have a terrific end to your school year and an even better summer! On behalf of industry, best wishes for a great 2023-2024!

3% Participation Awards

Deena Knabe, Blue Springs R-IV SD

Chair, Membership/Awards/Scholarship Committee



MSNA is continuing our celebration of school districts who have increased their participation this school year.

To see if your school qualifies, please visit www.mosna.org/awards to download the forms for Breakfast and Lunch. The deadline for submission is **June 1, 2023**.

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Legislative Report



**Jill Morey, FSD Branson R-IV SD and Paul Becker,
FSD Fort Zumwalt SD – MSNA Legislative Co-Chairs**

Latest report from the Legislative Action Conference in Washington, DC

This year's SNA Legislative Action Conference was one of the most important conferences in the past decade. Issues of funding and proposed new standards were outlined and discussed.

What you need to know

Funding

The increased funding for the 2022-2023 school year will end on June 30, 2023. This funding included an extra \$0.68 free/reduced lunch and \$0.32 breakfast.

U.S. Representative Abigail Spanberger introduced the Healthy Schools Feed Kids Act, which would extend these reimbursements through the 23-24 school year. A vote has not yet been taken.

Proposed Standards

In February, the USDA proposed more stringent guidelines for meals over a six-year period. These changes include: limiting added sugars, where chocolate milk would only be served in the high schools, and weekly added sugars must average less than 10% of calories per meal and whole grain-rich are required for all grains except one day a week. Sodium standards will be reduced by 10% in years 25- 26, 27-28 & 29 - 30. A complete detail and explanation of the standards can be found at [fns.usda.gov/cn/school-meal-standards-comparison-chart](https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/school-meal-standards-comparison-chart)

Comments to USDA regarding standards

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/fr-020723>

Transitional Standards

For school year 23 - 24, schools will now have to comply with new transition standards 1A. Here are the highlights:

- **Milk** - 1% low fat flavored or unflavored milk as well as unflavored fat-free milk
- **Sodium** - Sodium standards will decrease by 10%.
- **Whole Grains** - At least 80% of grains served at breakfast & lunch must be whole-grain rich.



Missouri SNA LAC Delegation (left to right)

Rick Kenkel, MSNA President-elect and FSD, Joplin School District, Paul Becker, MSNA Legislative Committee Co-Chair and FSD, Fort Zumwalt R-II SD, Linda Webster, MSNA President and FSD, St. James R-I SD, Jimmy Leist with Duke Manufacturing, Faraby Reis with Gold Star Foods, Jim Klimt with Duke Manufacturing, Matthew Essner with Linq, Carroll Bender with Jackson Warewashing Systems, and Jill Morey, MSNA Legislative Committee Co-Chair and FSD, Branson R-IV School District.



DESE Update



Department of Elementary & Secondary Education Update
By Barbara Shaw, State Coordinator, DESE, Food & Nutrition Services

Missouri school nutrition professionals served an average of 1,709,939 free meals and snacks per day in school year 2021-2022. This dramatic increase in school meals participation is slightly higher than those before the pandemic (i.e. school year 2018-2019). As we continue to track a decrease in meals participation we know all schools are concerned about sustaining a food service program while still dealing up against the challenging price increases of food and contracts. As we continue to monitor all Federal and State bills we will notify you of any program impacts.

We continue to be faced with more changes and higher demands to overcome. A big Thank You from our DESE FNS office for your response to the Pandemic Eligibility Transfer Benefits (P-ETB) data collection. Without your response students eligible for free or reduced-price meals who missed consuming a meal at school during school year 2021-2022 due to a COVID-19 related absence would not receive the P-ETB benefits needed to help purchase food. However, with your help the free and reduced-price students enrolled in May 2022 will also receive a one-time summer benefit to provide some food insecurity relief. This has been a new unexpected process and program for all of us and we can't thank you enough for your time and cooperation.

Our office will be releasing communication about the implementation of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, that went into effect March 3, 2023. This act impacts program areas for school year 23-24 including: Crediting of Starchy Vegetables for breakfast, Compliance with Paid Lunch Equity Requirements, Establishing a Non-Congregate Meal Service Option in the SFSP and SSO programs and Establishing of a Permanent Summer EBT Program. Please look for these updates in our *NEW* DESE Food and Nutrition Services newsletter.

We are still waiting on the Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) Tool for school year 2023-24 and we will notify all schools immediately when we receive this tool.

More changes that could result in the largest adjustment since the Healthy Hungry Kids Free Act of 2010 is the proposed rule for Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Once the final rule is published, our team is here to help school food service operators learn any new policy and provide the tools and flexibility we can to be compliant and successful.

NEW for Summer 2023 the DESE Food and Nutrition Service workshops will provide school food service professionals the opportunity to collaborate, plan and put actions in place. You will connect, learn and share best practices with your peers. Look for registration later this spring.

We are still waiting on state budget authority to pay out the second and third round of Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) Funds and schools should receive these payments prior to the end of the school year. This money helps schools and Food Service Management Companies purchase

DESE Update, continued

non-processed, minimally processed allowable foods including local and fresh items. Review the DESE FNS News and Updates page for SCA information and more.

USDA Food Packets are in and the Food Distribution team is busy ordering trucks of food for next school year. Please continue to work with Gold Star Foods to check-in to the live inventory system each month and select all your USDA brown box and Fee for Service items that you ordered (on your packet) for delivery. Continue to work closely with your processors and manufacturers to utilize all of the allocated pounds. These monthly practices are critical because it is very important that you effectively use all of the entitlement provided to your school.

Exciting Farm to School activities are coming soon that will help your school increase local food source connections and purchases to span more local across the meals tray!

Thank you again for the excellent service you provide each and every day. The work school nutrition professionals do is imperative to connect Missouri students to the food they need to fuel their bodies during the school day. As the State Director for the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program, I am beyond proud to work beside your school food service teams as we navigate through the school years together.



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SNA is excited announce the all-new monthly membership campaign, **Membership Starts with Me** #ISupportSNA.

From August through May, this revamped approach to the Annual Membership Campaign will have randomly selected winners and prizes each month. This is a great opportunity to get involved and show your support for SNA and school nutrition – you can also win great prizes!

Monthly campaign prizes include:

- Free SNA membership
- Free Training Zone class
- SNA Shop gift card


To be eligible for a monthly prize, you just need to recruit at least ONE new SNA member. ***Be sure that the member you recruit lists you as the referrer when they join SNA (online or using print application).*** Winners will be selected through a random prize drawing each month.* In addition to winning a great prize, monthly campaign winners will be showcased on SNA social media platforms. We encourage you to recruit a new member today!

For complete campaign rules, prizes and materials, visit www.schoolnutrition.org/about-us/sna-membership

*Void where prohibited or restricted by law



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2023 MSNA *Annual Conference*

October 13 - 15, 2023 | Columbia, MO

2023 MSNA Annual Conference

Opening General Session Speaker

Neil Ihde, Life IQ – Live Intelligently!

Neil Ihde (Ee-dee) is a speaker, lecturer, consultant and founder of Life IQ where he motivates groups and individuals to work, play, relate and live intelligently. He has worked with numerous managers, directors, corporate leaders, and teams to improve their personal and professional effectiveness. Neil has worked with over 25 Fortune 500 companies including AT&T, Discover Card, Domino's, Transamerica, GE among others. Neil has also consulted internationally with clients from a dozen countries. He is a TEDx speaker and his Life IQ YouTube channel recently eclipsed a half-million views. Neil's academic background includes a B.A. in Psychology, a B.A. in Sociology, and a MA in Counseling. Neil and his wife Deb have two children and live in Appleton, Wisconsin.



Closing General Session Speaker

Holly Hoffman, Inner Depth, LLC

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending." Marie Robinson

Holly Hoffman was the last remaining member of the Espada Tribe and the last woman standing on Season 21 of CBS' hit reality show "Survivor Nicaragua". Through that experience, and others throughout her life, Holly was inspired to share her message of survival.



A professional motivational speaker and the author of *Your Winner Within* and *Write Yourself a Note*, Holly acknowledges that life is made up of challenges, and we are oftentimes faced with situations that seem insurmountable. But within each of us is an ability to focus our thoughts, emotions, and energy to succeed—if only we have the knowledge, tools, and discipline to do so.

A native of South Dakota, Holly's writing and speaking not only offer encouragement and optimism but a roadmap for self-discovery and spiritual enlightenment. Readers and audience members alike walk away inspired to light the fire of successful living within themselves. Today, Holly is a recipient of the Certified Speaking Professional designation, and travels across the country and internationally, speaking to a wide variety of corporations, associations, universities, schools and women's organizations. Holly inspires her audiences to take opportunities and focus on faith, attitude, determination, confidence, desire and perseverance. @HollyHoffmanS21 HollyHoffman.com



Top 6 Reasons to Join SNA

1

Free Training

Free live and on-demand webinars at your fingertips on The Training Zone

2

Meetings & Events

Unparalleled in-person & virtual networking & professional development opportunities

3

Advocacy in Action

Unyielding efforts to provide a voice for school nutrition at the state and national levels

4

Career Advancement

The ability to grow professionally with Certificate & Credentialing programs

5

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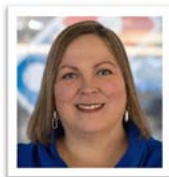


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