

Fall 2025



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MISSOURI SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION - [MOSNA.ORG](https://mosna.org)



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2025 MSNA ANNUAL CONFERENCE • NOVEMBER 7-9





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President's Corner

Greetings and Happy New (school) Year! I hope you were able to spend some down time over the summer with friends and family or relax at home or you went somewhere exciting for a vacation. I also hope that your school year is off to a wonderful start. It is an exciting time of year, reconnecting with co-workers and of course seeing how much the kiddos have changed over the summer!

Along with the turning of the leaves and much appreciated cooler weather coming, the beginning of the school year also brings a lot of emotions and of course, stress. Make sure to take time to clear your mind and reflect on the things that you enjoy. Now that the school year is in full swing, it is time to check in with ourselves and our colleagues. Having a strong support system of like-minded people is very important. It is good to reach out to these folks often. A wonderful way of connecting with those like-minded people is by attending the MSNA Annual Conference!

This year the conference will once again be held in beautiful Branson, November 7-9 at Chateau on the Lake. This conference always brings a lot of important information and updates that help enable us to perform our jobs more effectively and efficiently. But, just as importantly, it allows all too precious time to relax and bounce ideas off other people that do what you do and understand the struggles.

Watch for more information as it is sent out about the conference. The planning team has been hard at work for the last several months to make sure the conference is both enjoyable and educational!

The MSNA board also encourages every member to invite others to join the organization and to attend any or all conferences that you can. When I first started in public school food service thirteen years ago, MSNA was a wonderful resource for this newbie. Although food service had been my life since I was in high school, public school food service was a whole new exiting world for me with a lot of information to absorb. Looking forward to seeing everyone in November!

Joyce Fenner

Joyce Fenner, MSNA 2024-2025 President



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2025 MSNA Annual Conference



November 7 - 9
Chateau on the Lake
Branson, MO

Conference registration is required to be able to reserve rooms within Missouri SNA's discounted hotel room block.

When registering online after you have received your confirmation, you will be given access to the online link at the Chateau on the Lake.

MSNA reserves the right to cancel, without notification, any reservation that does not have a corresponding registration for MSNA 2025 Annual Conference. MSNA will also be using a conference app this year.

To Register

Please go to the MSNA website, www.mosna.org home page.

Scroll down to the Upcoming Events section and click on MSNA 2025 Annual Conference.

There you will find an Attendees section with the links to this brochure, the attendee registration link for credit card registration or check registration, and the pre-conference and keynote speakers' information.

You will receive emailed confirmation after you complete the registration process. The check registration confirmation will contain the mailing instructions for payment. If you have any questions, please contact the MSNA office by emailing msna@mosba.org.

Friday Pre-Conference Session

\$90.00, includes transportation to and from the venue, and lunch for all pre-conference attendees. Registration is limited to 20 participants.

Conference Registration

Includes breakfast Saturday & Sunday and banquet Saturday evening

- Conference – Member \$170.00
- Conference – Non-Member \$220.00

Hotel Reservation Cutoff

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Conference Registration Cutoff

Friday, October 24, 2025

Preconference Session

Farm to School Planning

Friday, November 7, 2025

Meet by registration in Atrium by 8:55 am, sharp! Bus departs from the Chateau for the Airbnb venue at 9:00 am.

Hosts: Barbara Shaw, Food & Nutrition Coordinator (DESE) & Katlyn Lanoue RDN, LD: Officer of Nutrition and Compliance (Kansas City Public Schools)

Location: Airbnb 5 minutes from the Chateau on the Lake, Branson, MO

Transportation: Bus transportation to and from the Airbnb

Cultivating Connections from Farm to Cafeteria

In partnership with DHSS, this hands-on, interactive pre-conference is designed to equip school nutrition professionals with the knowledge, tools, and inspiration to launch or expand Farm to School initiatives. From local purchasing to recipe development, participants will gain practical skills and a clear roadmap to success.

What You'll Experience:

- **Farm to School Fundamentals:** Understand the core principles and benefits of integrating local agriculture into school meals.
- **Local Purchasing Strategies:** Learn how to source ingredients from nearby farms and producers.
- **Culinary Innovation:** Engage in a recipe development session featuring a spaghetti meat sauce made with seasonal, locally grown produce.
- **Grant Funding Guidance:** Discover how to leverage available grant funds to support Farm to School efforts.
- **Producer Connections:** Meet local growers and explore opportunities to collaborate and utilize funding effectively.
- **Action Planning:** Walk away with a personalized, actionable plan to integrate Farm to School into your district's nutrition program.



Who Should Attend:

School nutrition directors, food service managers, educators, and anyone passionate about improving student access to fresh, nutritious meals through local sourcing.

Limited Availability:

Only 20 spots are available. Secure your place early to be part of this transformative experience. Check the MSNA website here for more details as they become available.



Keynote Speakers



Linda Larsen

Opening Keynote Speaker

Linda Larsen is one of only 269 people world-wide to be inducted into the National Speakers' Hall of Fame®, joining such notables as General Colin Powell and President Ronald Reagan. She has been a featured presenter for over 1,800 conferences and meetings worldwide for groups such as Jaguar Cars, AT&T and the American Heart Association,

as well as many state school nutrition groups, including Tennessee, Alabama, New Mexico, Delaware, and Ohio. Author of the best-selling audio program, 12 Steps to High Self-Esteem, and the critically acclaimed book, True Power, Linda is also a popular guest co-host on the ABC-7 Florida television show, The Suncoast View.



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Keynote Speakers



Candy Whirley Closing Keynote Speaker

Candy brings 'real world' experience from many industries including: training, retail, customer service (certified by International Customer Service Association – ICSA), restaurant, entertainment, management, youth ministry, and business owner. Candy has been speaking for over thirty years and has owned SBG Services, LLC since 2001. She has spoken nationally and internationally with over fifty industries and authored several books. Candy graduated Cum Laude from Missouri Western State University with a B.S. Degree in Speech Communications, and Human Relations Emphasis and a Master's in Management at the University of Phoenix. She also received her CSP (Certified Speaking Professional) designation in 2016 and is a Certified Yoga Instructor. Psssst...she was a Kansas City Chiefs Cheerleader....A LONG TIME AGO!

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