

D  
E  
C  
E  
M  
B  
E  
R  
  
2  
0  
1  
5

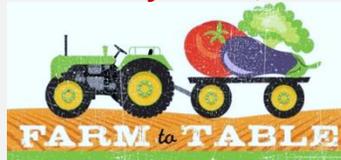
**S**CHOOL  
**N**UTRITION  
**A**SSOCIATION™  
OF K A N S A S

*Making the right food choices, together.*



## **SNA KANSAS KARRIER**

**Kansas School Lunch Week**  
**January 25-29, 2016**



The theme for Kansas School Lunch Week 2016 is “Farm to School”. Celebrate Kansas farm foods on your menus! Promote dairy, pork, beef, wheat, and corn as agriculture products that are produced in the state of Kansas. According to the Kansas State Department of Agriculture website, Kansas is a leader in wheat, grain sorghum, and beef production. The Kansas Dairy industry is expanding and the demand for healthy foods is increasing. Visit [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), Farm to School for menu suggestions along with supporting recipes tested in schools by the Kansas State Department of Education, Child Nutrition and Wellness. Teachers can find “Ag in the Classroom Nutrition Education Lesson Plans” to support the cafeteria celebrations during Kansas School Lunch Week. Kansas has a rich agricultural history and a promising future, and school nutrition programs are encouraged to celebrate this heritage each January during Kansas School Lunch Week!

***How will you celebrate Kansas School Lunch Week in 2016?***



### **!!! SAVE THE DATE !!!**

Be sure to mark your calendar for the 2016 SNA-KS Fall Conference scheduled to take place from October 21-23, 2016 in Wichita, Kansas. Look for more program and exhibition details on the website in the coming months!



### **SNA-KS Board Positions**

Have you considered running for a State office position or do you know someone you think would make a great state officer? Would you like to be considered for a committee member to see what all of the excitement is about? Many of the board meeting expenses are paid for by the association.

**All nominees must be SNA members and have either a SNA certificate or SNS Credential.**

This year we will be accepting nominations for the following positions:

- ❖ Vice-President
- ❖ Treasurer
- ❖ District Director and Supervisor Representative
- ❖ Southwest Area Representative
- ❖ North Central Area Representative
- ❖ South East Area Representative

So if the answer is YES, please send your contact information to,

Elaine Harris  
12538 Prestwick Dr. KCK. 66109  
913-721-5357  
[Elaine\\_harris@usd368.org](mailto:Elaine_harris@usd368.org)

## Attend SNA National Leadership Conference as a Future Leader

Our state association has the opportunity to send up to 2 individuals to the National Leadership Conference on April 21-23, 2016 in Minneapolis, Minnesota as part of the SNA Future Leaders Program. We are looking for SNA members who hold the SNA Certificate in School Nutrition or the SNS credential and who want to network with other emerging SNA stars from across the country, hone their leadership and communication skills, and learn from seasoned SNA leaders in a fun, refreshed, and interactive environment. Contact State President, Lynelle Munn at [lmunnfpc@olatheschools.org](mailto:lmunnfpc@olatheschools.org) for more information and to be considered for this opportunity.



NLC 2015

## 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 2015-16 school year. Nominations for the Employee of the Year, Manager of the Year 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 Annual National Conference 2016 in San Antonio, Texas.

Who do you know who should be honored with a SNA award? To learn more and to submit your nomination online today, please visit

[www.schoolnutrition.org/SNAawards](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/SNAawards).



## Wake Up to School Breakfast during NSBW 2016!

wake up!  
School Breakfast



National School Breakfast Week (NSBW) 2016 will take place March 7-11, 2016.

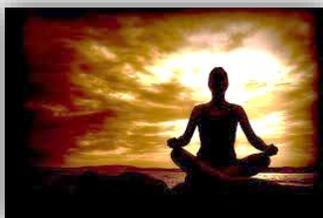
Use the 2016 NSBW theme "Wake Up to School Breakfast" to spread the message to administrators, parents, and students that a healthy school breakfast brings a sunny start to the day for students. Visit

[www.schoolnutrition.org/nsbw](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/nsbw) to download SNA's resources and celebration tips to get started today.



## December Challenge: Make Time for Meditation

This December, the STEPS Challenge is all about relaxing your mind and body during this stressful season. All month long, make an effort to find a quiet place and a few minutes to be peaceful, breathe deeply and find your sense of calm. At the end of the month, be sure to add up your points and enter them online at [www.schoolnutrition.org/STEPS](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/STEPS) – you could win a prize!



## New Webinars Coming in 2016!

Register Now

Check back at [schoolnutrition.org/Webinars](http://schoolnutrition.org/Webinars) after the New Year to find out what learning opportunities are in store for 2016! All webinars are held at 2pm Eastern Time (1pmCT/Noon MT/11am PT).

Missed a particular webinar? Check out our webinar archive and take advantage of extra down time you may have over the holidays to catch up on the hottest topics in school nutrition.



## Chapter Connection

Every newsletter, we'll share information that will help grow our chapters and help members make the connection between local, state and national involvement. The Chapter Connection segments will focus on the addressing some of the feedback we received during the Mega-Issue Discussion at the Fall SNA-KS conference in October.

When SNA chapters are thriving and sustainable organizations, they provide members with opportunities to:

- network with other school nutrition professionals in their area
- work through shared challenges
- celebrate successes
- learn together in a friendly and professional environment
- connect with and promote school nutrition to their community in a positive way
- have fun with their peers

The key to engaging chapter membership effectively is to provide valuable learning and networking opportunities, which make members feel like they are part of a local community of school nutrition professionals. Holding consistent and meaningful meetings help members feel like they are getting a return on their investment in their SNA membership.

### Meaningful Chapter Meetings should:

- Have a valuable, easy-to-understand purpose
- Connect to the needs/desires of your members
- Provide an educational opportunity
- Have fun elements and promote camaraderie among members

SNA has a number of programs designed specifically to benefit our members. Hosting a chapter meeting on a SNA program is an easy way to introduce members to their benefits and hold a meaningful meeting. Here are a couple of chapter meeting ideas from SNA:

- **National School Breakfast Week (NSBW):** NSBW is held in March every year to help school nutrition promote the benefits of the National School Breakfast Program. Every year, a new theme is created by SNA and corresponding tool kits, materials, and items for sale are made available to members. In the months leading up to NSBW, hold a meeting with your chapter members to share materials about NSBW and brainstorm together how you can celebrate this week in your school or district. Share recipes that fit the theme and think of fun ways to get kids involved. After NSBW, be sure to follow up with your members for pictures and stories about the week and share successes in your newsletter or next meeting.
- **SNA Awards Program:** SNA provides members with the opportunity to get recognized for the work they do every day to ensure well-nourished students are prepared for success. Hold a workshop to inform members of the awards available to them and their colleagues and discuss how to write a winning nomination. Learning to write effectively to promote yourself or someone you admire is an important professional skill, too. If you know of any local members who have earned an award, have them come back and tell their story to interested individuals. At the end of the meeting, brainstorm together how members might use what they've learned in other ways.

More Chapter Resource information can be found at:

<https://schoolnutrition.org/Membership/ChapterResources/>