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National Leadership Conference Energizes State Board for Year Ahead!

Incoming Kansas SNA Board of Director members Stan Vallis and Tara Grindol-Cox attended SNA's National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Baltimore, Maryland on May 3-6, 2017. NLC provides current and future state and national leaders the opportunity to learn critical information about successfully leading a nonprofit association, to network with other leaders from across the country, and to gain new skills to become a more effective and engaging leader.

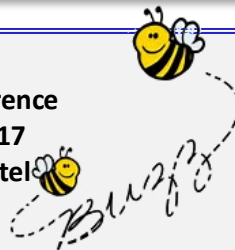
During the conference, Leadership Expert and CEO of Highland Consulting Group, Inc., Roxi Bahar Hewertson presented an entertaining and informative keynote speaker series on understanding your strengths as a leader, resolving conflicts effectively, and building a positive leadership culture. Incoming board members also attended break-out sessions on association management.

Future Leaders of the Association Trained and Ready to Serve

The SNA Future Leaders Program was just held in conjunction with the National Leadership Conference on May 3-6, 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland. The Future Leaders Program was taught by SNA Past Presidents Sandy Ford, SNS, Julia Bauscher, SNS and Nancy Rice, SNS and provided hands-on training to emerging leaders of SNA. Participants networked with SNA members and leaders from across the country and honed their leadership and communication skills. Using the Gallup StrengthsFinder exercise, they also identified and learned how to utilize their own unique set of leadership strengths.

Congratulations to , Josh Mathiasmeier and Jayci Dalton who represented our state and successfully completed the Future Leaders Program! We are lucky to have this up-and-coming association star.

SNA-KS Fall Conference
October 6-8, 2017
Capitol Plaza Hotel
Topeka, KS



Join us to see what all the "Buzz" is about and why School Nutrition is the place to "Bee"

- ◆ Social Time w/Vendors
- ◆ Friday Night Game Night
- ◆ Wonderful Breakout Sessions
- ◆ Amazing Keynote Speakers
- ◆ Networking with fellow School Nutrition Professionals
- ◆ And so much more...



Need Idea to Reinvigorate Your Local SNA Chapter? Attend CLD @ ANC!

Are you a local or state SNA chapter leader who is looking for ways to reinvigorate your chapter or start a new chapter?

Don't miss this annual interactive, informative and fun event on **Saturday, July 8, from 8:00am to 12:00pm** featuring networking opportunities with chapter leaders from across the country and topics such as planning engaging meetings, recruiting new members, and more.

Back by popular demand, this session will be led by JoAnne Robinett, SNS. Cost is \$25 and breakfast is included.

Encourage your local chapter leaders to attend!



SNA Commends USDA in Supporting School Meal Flexibility

SNA joined U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue as he released an interim rule seeking regulatory flexibility for school meal programs. This commitment by Secretary Perdue addresses concerns raised in SNA's *2017 Position Paper*, which requested maintaining Target 1 sodium levels and restoring the initial requirement that at least half of grains offered through school meals be whole grain rich. Read more about the USDA interim rule and SNA response in this SNA Press Release.

New Resources to Build your Summer Program!



SNA Social Media Tools & More: Need some help marketing your summer meals program? Be sure to download SNA's summer specific shareable content for social media at www.schoolnutrition.org/PR. USDA also has free posters, activity guides and flyers you can order at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program>

New Books and Resources for the Kids You Serve: SNA's allied organizations Share Our Strength and First Book are teaming up to get brand new books into your program, just in time for summer learning! **You can access \$100 of free books** from the First Book Marketplace! To choose your free books, all you have to do is sign up. Follow these steps to bring great books to your Summer Meals site.

1- Sign up! Anyone serving kids from low-income families through a school, summer meal site, or other community organization is eligible to join.

2- Visit the First Book Marketplace and check out the wide variety of resources available. We recommend starting with the Health and Wellness section, but feel free to explore!

3- Enter the code SoS2017 in your shopping cart to take up to \$100 off your book order! This particular funding opportunity applies to books only.*

Summer Meals Texting Program 2017

Did you know that the No Kid Hungry texting hotline allows children and families to easily and quickly identify open summer meals sites in their area? To receive information about open summer meals sites, users text 'FOOD' to 877-877, and receive a text back prompting them to enter an address (either their home address or any other location of their choosing). Once the user replies with a full address and/or zip code, the service provides information about nearby meals sites, or information about how to access sites if none are located in the vicinity. Spanish speakers may also access this information by texting 'COMIDA' to 877-877 and receive a response in Spanish. Click here for more information on Summer Meals planning.



Unpaid Meal Charge Policies Due July 1, 2017

In 2016, USDA released a memo stating that all school food authorities (SFAs) that participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP) must have a written and clearly communicated meal charge policy by July 1, 2017.

This requirement was proposed to encourage a shared understanding between foodservice professionals, school administrators, families, and students of policy procedures when children do not have school meal money in their account or carry a negative balance. Meal charge policy plans can either be developed by state agencies or SFAs, but should be cohesive and disseminated to all parties involved.

USDA's Unpaid Meal Charges website provides links to the policy guidance memos, as well as a best practice resources section with handbooks, guides and presentation.

Scholarship Dollars for Your State



The School Nutrition Foundation is partnering with state associations to help secure funds for scholarships by supporting the SNF Annual Fund. Working with State Ambassadors, SNF is providing resources by giving back a portion of all funds raised in your state.

How does it work?

If 3% of members in your state contribute to the SNF annual fund, you will receive 20% of the total raised to use for scholarships for professional development in your state. If 5% of your members contribute to the SNF Annual Fund, your state will receive 25% of the total raised! Each contribution of \$10 counts toward this goal.

For more information contact Janet Hedrick at jhedrick@schoolnutrition.org or call 800-877-8822 ext. 181. Donations can be made online or through your State Ambassador at your next conference.



Big Resource, Bigger Value!

Whether you want to get a new employee up to speed, help explain school nutrition issues to your district's superintendent, or support legislative initiatives in your state house, SNA's *Little Big Fact Book: The Essential Guide to School Nutrition* offers everything you need to know about the fundamentals of school nutrition. Hot off the presses, the 2017 edition of *Little Big* is a must-have for anyone and everyone working in and with school nutrition programs, but it's particularly useful for new food-service directors and managers, school administrators, manufacturer marketing and sales teams, state and national legislators and media representatives. Purchase your copy today online for just \$18 at www.schoolnutrition.org/bookstore. Additional price savings are available for bulk orders.



Recruit this Spring for a Chance to be an SNA VIP!

We have the opportunity to win big this spring and boost our membership to strengthen our association! Our mission is to recruit as many new members and retain as many current members as possible to meet or exceed our 3% membership growth goal. Our state association could be the Membership Division Champion!

Plus, if YOU recruit members, you can win, too! If you bring in 5 or more new members to SNA this year through the Annual Membership Campaign, you will be entered in a raffle to win 1 of 5 VIP registrations to ANC 2018 in Las Vegas! For more information about the Annual Membership Campaign and how you can win big by recruiting, visit: <https://schoolnutrition.org/vegas/>.

Hooray, Hooray, More Webinars this May!

You don't want to miss the next three Webinar Wednesday's to jump start the summer! Register now for these valuable e-learning opportunities:

- ◆ Wed. May 24, 2017, 2pm EST – Gimme Some Feedback: Preventing Conflicts Through Constructive Feedback

Get ready for *Best of #SNIC17 4 of 4: Food Waste: The Latest Movement*, the last webinar within the Best of #SNIC Series, presented by Jean Ronnei. Upwards of 40% of the food in the U.S. is wasted. Take home the latest practical ideas and innovations from schools and restaurants to help you reduce, reuse and recycle in this webinar. Then join us for the second webinar within our Webinar Leadership Series, *Preventing Conflict Through Constructive Feedback*, presented by Roxi Hewertson, where you will learn about preventing conflicts through the power of constructive feedback.

Click [here](#) to register! All webinars are held at 2pm Eastern Time (1pmCT/Noon MT/11am PT). Visit [SNA Webinars](#) for more information. Missed a recent webinar? Check out the [Webinars On-Demand](#) library and catch up on the hottest topics in school nutrition; available to SNA members 24/7.

Share Your Thoughts: Increasing Verification Response Rate



USDA wants to hear from SNA members and is hosting a challenge around verification response rates. This challenge is an opportunity to take advantage of a national platform to share your success stories and your great ideas on how to increase household response rates in the annual school meals verification process!

SNA President Becky Domokos-Bays and FNS Deputy Administrator for Child Nutrition, Cindy Long, are leading the judging panel, and FNS will highlight the winning submissions at SNA's 2017 Annual National Conference in Atlanta, GA. **The challenge runs through June 15th.** So, take a few minutes to share your thoughts on how to increase household response rates, and forward this message to your peers around the country whose insights might also prove valuable!