



SNA KANSAS KARRIER

SAVE THE DATE

School Nutrition of Kansas

Annual Conference

Salina, Ks.

April 1-3, 2022

SURVIVORTOOLKIT

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Network

Empower

Teamwork

Staffing

Pivot

Flexible

Adapt

Communicate



From Our SNA-KS President:

Tools & Resources

In my introduction in the last issue of the Karrier I spoke of mentoring. I believe that mentoring and having a resource of people to reach out to is more important than ever at this time. Being able to pick up the phone and ask for help, advice or just to blow off some steam about this crazy year can be an invaluable resource. I rarely attend a meeting or have a conversation with another food service source where I don't walk away with a new idea or way of handling this job.

Having a mentor during my first years as a food service director helped me so much. Having a mentor relieved a lot of stress by having someone to turn to for answers and advice. I strongly encourage anyone that is new to this job or feels that they can benefit from a mentor to reach out to SNA-KS or KSDE Child Nutrition for help. We will be happy to help you find someone in your area that can be a mentor for you. If you would be interested in being a mentor please contact me at rhampton@usd263.org or reach out to KSDE Child Nutrition and let them know of your willingness to help.

We have a group in the Wichita area that used to meet once per month for a late afternoon unch and used that time to discuss food service related issues. Unfortunately with the onset of Covid that practice has stopped but I hope that we will be able to revive it again soon. I know that I have been a part of discussion groups sharing job descriptions so you don't have to start from scratch, recipes and menu ideas, inventory sources for needed products and even forms and excel spreadsheets to make the job easier. I have found that our fellow directors are always willing to share information and ideas.

Take a moment to read publications such as the Karrier, SNA SmartBrief or a host of many other newsletters and emails that hit our inbox daily. There are usually some helpful items that can be found in the publications and newsletters that are directed to us. I usually save these for a no school day. I keep a folder on my desk to rip out interesting magazine articles and if I happen to be reading something electronic I use the print feature (PDF) and store it on my computer to come back to later.

Consider joining a purchasing co-op. The work of creating bids and following procurement guidelines can be made easier by being a part of a purchasing group. I have been a part of two purchasing groups and have found my pricing to be very competitive or better than prime vendor contracts. Your co-op members can also be a great resource for ideas and information.

Working in school food service can be a challenging career and as we have found it can get even tougher when unexpected circumstances come our way. But we always find a way to get the job done and feed our students. The challenges may be great but so is the reward of seeing happy well fed students walking our hallways able to learn because we have done our part to prepare them for each school day.



New Changes to SNA Awards

Effective September 2021, SNA has implemented changes to the SNA awards program. The exciting highlights are below:

- Allow for collaboration among individuals on award applications
- Allow self nominations
- Change regional judging to an ad-hoc committee of volunteers
- Develop tools for state leaders to market and judge the state awards
- Remove certificate requirement for the Employee of the Year (EOY) and Manager of the Year (MOY) Awards
 - Use points in the scoring rubric to give the nominee credit for having these qualifications
- For the Director of the Year (DOY) Award, remove requirements for a certificate or credential and service on state or national committee or board
 - Use points in the scoring rubric to give the nominee credit for having these qualifications
- For the DOY Award, shorten the membership requirement to three (3) years



[Learn More](#)

Update Membership Applications: New SNA Lockbox Address

The new lockbox address takes effect on October 12, 2021. Your updated National/State membership applications are now available on the SNA website.

We encourage state affiliates to download their respective applications and help get the message out to members about the upcoming lockbox address change.

[>Learn More](#)

August Membership Report

The August 2021 Membership Report shows that we have 46,225 members.

This is a decrease of 42 members compared to July 2021, 5,637 less than August 2020 and 836 less than May 2021 year-end total.



[>Learn More](#)



Take Action: Urge Congress to Work with USDA to Address Critical Supply Chain Issues



In August, SNA sent its [letter of recommendations](#) to USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack on current supply chain disruption and how USDA can ease pressure on school nutrition programs struggling with procurement issues. SNA continues to monitor supply chain disruptions and their impact on school meal programs.

[>Take Action Now](#)

SNA Calls for Passage of the Build Back Better Act

SNA is urging the U.S. House Education and Labor Committee to advance the Build Back Better Act and Congress to quickly pass the legislation. Provisions in this Act currently include:

Expansion of CEP by lowering the ISP threshold from 40 to 25%, increasing the multiplier to 2.5 and giving states the option to implement CEP statewide. These provisions continue through SY2029-30.

Medicaid direct certification through SY2030-31

Extension of Summer EBT nationwide through September 30, 2029

\$500 million for school kitchen equipment grants

\$634 million for a Healthy School Meal incentives demonstration project



[> Read SNA's press release](#)

Monthly Mavericks Make Things Happen.

Monthly donations provide the critical, reliable funds we depend on to provide the scholarships and professional development programs SNA members use every day. Below, we identify the ways your sustaining gift supports school nutrition operators and their continuous learning.



What Kind of Change Would You Like to Create?

Join SNF's [Monthly Maverick Club](#) to support our mission of advancing school nutrition programs by providing resources to school nutrition professionals.

Join Today



Happy Thanksgiving!

Season's Greetings

Merry Christmas



From the School Nutrition Association of Kansas

