



## SNAC Bites

### February 2019 Edition

Welcome to the February 2019 issue of SNA Communication (SNAC) Bites! SNAC Bites highlights new SNA programs and provides content for your state association publications, chapter meetings, & social media. In some cases, the content will need to be customized for your state association's needs.

This issue includes:

1. [Voting for the 2019 SNA Election Opens on February 15!](#)
2. [3rd Annual FREE Virtual Expo Now Open!](#)
3. [Start Your Engines: #NSBW19 Is Just One Month Away](#)
4. [One Month Away! Don't Forget to Submit Your Award Nominations](#)
5. [Request for Proposals: 2019 School Breakfast Leadership Institute](#)
6. [Will You Be Our Valentine?](#)
7. [Cold Weather? No Worries! Things are Heating up With Webinar Wednesdays](#)
8. [Latest Journal of Child Nutrition & Management Online Now; Share Your Expertise on Special Diets](#)
9. [What Do You Order from Your Local Farmer?](#)
10. [SNA Releases 2019 Position Paper](#)
11. [Government Funded Through February 15](#)
12. [SNA Submitted Comment on Farm to School Census](#)

#### 1. Voting for the 2019 SNA Election Opens on February 15!

Your voice matters! Don't forget to cast your vote for the 2019 SNA Election beginning on **February 15** running through **February 28**.

As mentioned in January's SNAC Bites and the January issue of the SNA magazine, members are now required to use an individual email address to cast a vote. When the election opens on the morning of February 15, you should look for an email sent from SNA's election vendor, Election Services Corp. (ESC) on the Association's behalf. This email will provide steps for you to authenticate your identity and provide access to your ballot through a unique voting validation number. This number will be required to cast your vote. After voting, you will receive a "Thank You for Voting" email from ESC as confirmation.

For troubleshooting, questions about the new process or setting up your individual email address, please contact the ESC Help Desk, toll-free, at (866) 720-HELP (4357) or via email at [snahelp@electionservicescorp.com](mailto:snahelp@electionservicescorp.com), and a customer service representative will assist you.

If you have questions about your eligibility to vote, contact [snaelection@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:snaelection@schoolnutrition.org) and SNA staff will assist you.

#### 2. 3rd Annual FREE Virtual Expo Now Open!

Experience the future of sourcing new products with no travel or expense required—SNA's FREE [Virtual Expo](#) is now open 24-7! The Expo runs online from **February 5-March 22** and features 25 exhibitors in two virtual exhibit halls. In the Learning Center, watch 5 new pre-recorded education sessions from #ANC18 to earn CEUs and drop by the Networking Lounge to connect with other attendees. The Expo is the perfect way to network and make connections with exhibitors and discover new products and services for your program—all from your own device or computer! [Visit the Expo](#).



### 3. Start Your Engines: #NSBW19 Is Just One Month Away

Are you revved up for [National School Breakfast Week: Start Your Engines?](#) Does your marketing plan need a tune up? Find all the tools you need on the [NSBW website](#) to get your pit crew prepped for the event! [Get started](#) with artwork and logos, download the [NSBW toolkit and handouts](#), and visit the [Marketing and PR Resources](#) web page for social media graphics, a proclamation and a new template letter to make inviting guests to your celebration easier! Don't forget to visit the SNA [Emporium](#) for your #NSBW19 t-shirts, aprons, and other fun items!

### 4. One Month Away! Don't Forget to Submit Your Award Nominations

Don't delay! Recognize your colleague today for the Employee of the Year, Manager of the Year and Director of the Year awards. [Nominations](#) are being accepted online or to your State President until March 1, 2019. All state, regional and national winners will be recognized at the Red Carpet Awards Ceremony at SNA's 2019 Annual National Conference in St. Louis, MO.

### 5. Request for Proposals: 2019 School Breakfast Leadership Institute

No Kid Hungry is now accepting proposals for its second School Breakfast Leadership Institute to be held June 11-12 in New Orleans. **Proposals are due March 6.** Selected state teams will receive a \$50,000 grant to implement a comprehensive action plan to expand access to school breakfast within their state. Learn more about the Institute and view the RFP [here](#).

### 6. Will You Be Our Valentine?

Did You Know the School Nutrition Foundation:

- Awards more than \$100,000 a year in education scholarships to SNA members?
- Has given millions of dollars in grants for "breakfast in the classroom" programs through administration of a grant from the Walmart Foundation?
- Supports SNA's public relation efforts through the "Invest in US" endowment fund?
- Develops programs that address child hunger and food insecurity?
- **Can raise money through your purchases at the AmazonSmile Foundation Program?**

That's right—**THE Amazon**—will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization you select—in this case, your School Nutrition Foundation. There is no cost to you or to the Foundation.

All you do is go to [smile.amazon.com/ch/84-6039412](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-6039412) and once your selection is made, every time you purchase something through the AmazonSmile Program, SNF will benefit. It's. Just. That. Easy. to give back to the Foundation whose mission is to give back to you.

### 7. Cold Weather? No Worries! Things are Heating up With Webinar Wednesdays

Join us February 6 for the latest resources and strategies for implementing CEP effectively and hear from Oregon Food Director Michael Morrison, who will share how he grouped schools in his district, to increase CEP reimbursements. We believe the more CEP webinars you join, the easier it will be to spot ways to increase reimbursement and school participation in your district.

The following week join #SNIC19 General Session Speaker and Workforce Strategy Expert Kim Lear, who will share what the workforce of the future will look like based on her research of the Millennial and Z generations. Gen Z's will be graduating from college this year and are ready to work! Learn how you can implement changes now, to put you ahead of the curve when it comes to recruiting and retaining these generations.



Starting in March, we will launch The Best of #LAC19 series, focusing on changing the perception of school nutrition programs and giving practical advice on the subjects of indirect costs in a school nutrition program and cooperative purchasing.

For more details, go to our [Webinars](#) page.

### **8. Latest *Journal of Child Nutrition & Management* Online Now; Share Your Expertise on Special Diets**

From the management of food allergies in schools to farm-to-school product purchasing, the [Fall 2018 edition](#) of the [Journal of Child Nutrition & Management](#) covers a wide range of research articles that are applicable to your school kitchens. *JCN&M*, which publishes every spring and fall, is your source for research and evidence-based information to help guide decisions.

Because special diets are a multi-faceted topic that interests many parties, the upcoming Spring 2019 edition will be themed with this in mind. And the publication is currently seeking submissions from anyone who may have research or a unique solution to accommodating special diets. Check out the [flyer](#) to learn more.

### **9. What Do You Order from Your Local Farmer?**

Partnering with local farmers goes beyond simply bringing in farm-fresh fruits and vegetables into your school cafeterias. In a recent report published in the [Journal of Child Nutrition & Management](#), researchers surveyed schools across the country to see what exactly they were order from farmers. Not only did the researchers look at what was being ordered and in what frequency, but they also sought to see if any differences existed that were relative to school size (based on the number of lunches served).

### **10. SNA Releases 2019 Position Paper**

SNA has released its [2019 Position Paper](#), calling on Congress and the Administration to bolster school meals programs and minimize regulatory burdens. The *Paper* outlines the Association's legislative priorities in advance of the 47th annual [Legislative Action Conference](#) (LAC) next month in Washington, D.C.

In a [press release](#), SNA President Gay Anderson, SNS, commented, "School meals contribute to the health and academic achievement of nearly 30 million students each school day. To ensure all students can benefit from healthy school lunches and breakfasts, Congress and USDA must support efforts to increase student participation in school meals and streamline overly complex regulations that hinder program efficiencies."

Visit [www.schoolnutrition.org/PositionPaper](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/PositionPaper) to read the *Position Paper*, which includes links to fact sheets providing additional details about each request. SNA's [LAC Resources](#) page contains sample talking points, tweets and other resources to assist members with discussing the *2019 Position Paper* with their congressional representatives and to help LAC attendees to prepare for the "Charge to the Hill" on February 26.

### **11. Government Funded Through February 15**

The longest government shutdown in history ended on January 25, after the President signed a three-week continuing resolution. [H.J. Res 28](#) reopens the government through February 15. U.S. House and Senate members will convene a conference committee on Homeland Security appropriations. If a final FY 2019 appropriations bill or another continuing resolution is not passed and signed by the President by that time, the Federal government will shut down again. SNA is monitoring [several legislative priorities](#), including \$20 million for Breakfast Program commodities, currently included in the yet-to-be-passed FY 2019 Agriculture appropriations bill.



## **12. SNA Submitted Comment on Farm to School Census**

[In a letter, SNA responded](#) to [Food & Nutrition Service's \(FNS\) request for comment](#) on a proposed information collection for a Farm to School Census and Comprehensive Review. FNS seeks to use this third iteration of the census to allow the agency to make comparisons of farm to school activities and trends nationally across time, as well as to help contribute to a comprehensive view of the programs over the ten-year period since the USDA Farm to School grant program was established.

SNA expressed continued concern about the burden the census might place on school nutrition personnel, especially when the information is collected in a format that is not consistent with the way School Food Authorities (SFAs) collect and maintain records.