



SNAC Bites

May 2019 Edition

Welcome to the May 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.

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1. #ANC19 Early Registration Ends Friday, May 17—Register Now & Plan Your Pre-Cons!

Make sure your state affiliates and chapters take advantage of registration discounts for SNA's [2019 Annual National Conference](#)—early bird rates end on Friday, May 17! Members should plan now to come a day early and earn extra CEUs by attending [pre-conference workshops](#). Choose from full, half-day or new two hour-express workshops designed for all career levels—employees, managers and directors—and be sure to check out these three—(the first two are back by popular demand!) Knife and Cooking Skills Train-the-Trainer Lab with Chef Brenda Thompson-Wattles, RDN; “Supervisory Skill Development for Managers” and a special Community Activity: Helping Heal Childhood Hunger in Missouri,” with an opportunity to visit the local nonprofit Operation Food Search. [Register now!](#)

2. Something for Everyone this Month of Webinar Wednesdays!

Unlike other species, human brains have the distinct feature of having millions of neuron connectors between their input and output receptors. Everything we see, touch, smell is utilized to help us create new exciting ideas. Tap into this creativity with research-based tools explained and provided during our May 1 webinar. SNA members, check it out on our [On-Demand](#) page.

Then, see how one district has creatively applied tools like these in our May 8 webinar! Don't think procurement takes creativity? Think again! Join us on May 15 to see how on buying group creatively solved their procurement woes. And, as we settle into spring, there's no better time to talk about new Farm to School programs and incentives than during our May 22 webinar. Check out [more details](#) here.



3. Become an SNF Monthly Maverick Today!

When you partner with the School Nutrition Foundation (SNF) through its “Monthly Maverick” donation program, you will join a special group of people helping to make SNA members’ dreams come true—*members who never, ever stop learning.*

It’s as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4!

- 1 – Go to <https://www.classy.org/give/156336/#!/donation/checkout>
- 2 – Click on the amount you would like to donate and then click “monthly”; and
- 3 – Provide you payment information and click on “Donate Now.”
- 4 – Know that you are helping SNF provide the education, research and scholarships for SNA members.

4. Hip! Hip! Horizon!

Horizon Software has found a new way to increase its booth traffic at state conferences and donate to the School Nutrition Foundation (SNF) at the same time. For every attendee that comes by its exhibit booth and mentions the School Nutrition Foundation, Horizon will make a donation. The roll-out of this exciting fundraising campaign took place at the Georgia SNA state show. Horizon representatives reported a huge increase in the number of attendees who stopped by their booth, knowing it would help support SNF. Horizon plans to replicate this unique campaign at other state conferences this spring, including Tennessee, Colorado, Utah, Ohio, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. For more information, please contact SNF at snf@schoolnutrition.org.

5. Smile! It’s Mother’s Day

You can bring a smile to your mother’s face when you shop for her through the AmazonSmile Program that supports the School Nutrition Foundation. Sign up through the **AmazonSmile Program** and **Amazon** will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to SNF. There is no cost to you or to the Foundation.

All you do is go to 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 is the easiest way to give back to the Foundation that gives to SNA members!

6. Two Exclusive SN Digital Articles Just for You!

The May edition of *School Nutrition* (SN) will be arriving in your mailbox any day now, but do you need something to read in the meantime? Following the theme of the school chef and what the position can bring to a school nutrition department, [April’s SN](#) offered two digital articles exclusive to the online edition. The first article explored the onboarding process of hiring a trained chef and what skills to look for and provided helpful advice from directors. The second article shared the unique perspectives of three chef/school nutrition director hybrids who do everything from balance budget sheets to create flavor-packed recipes.

Be on the lookout for more digitally exclusive content in future issues! And, get ready for the May edition of the magazine: Articles will explore the partnerships that can form between school nutrition departments and the school nurse; the perks of in-school coffee shops; and how to implement family-style meal service during lunch times.



7. Last Call for Research Submissions!

Special diets are a hot topic of debate in lunchroom and school nutrition departments. For the upcoming Fall 2019 edition of *Journal of Child Nutrition & Management*, the issue will be themed with this interesting topic in mind. Consider sharing strategies, research, tips or stories from your own experiences. Submission deadline is May 15, 2019. [Learn more.](#)

8. SNA: Helping Win Over the Public on School Meals

Does everyone in your community know that today's school meals are nutritious and delicious? Tackling age-old stereotypes about school meals is daunting, but SNA has developed a host resources to help you educate community members about the benefits of school meals. Visit www.schoolnutrition.org/PR for a wide variety of members-only tools. Here's a quick overview of our most popular resources:

- [Media and Outreach Guides](#): From our recent "Winning Over the Public on School Meals" webinar (available on-demand), to tip sheets on prepping for media interviews, these tools outline successful tactics for spreading the good news.
- [Talking Points and Customizable PR Tools](#): Whether you're preparing for a presentation before the PTO or an interview on unpaid meal charges, SNA can help!
- [Backpack Brochures and Flyers](#): SNA offers customizable handouts to help you promote your program, including colorful new "Parents: Did You Know?" flyers and fact sheets detailing the benefits of school breakfast and lunch.

SNA's [About School Meals](#) section of the website is a great resource to share with parents, administrators, legislators, or anyone who wants to learn about school meal programs. The site offers a wealth of information, including: [one-pagers](#) on school nutrition standards; the [latest statistics](#) on school meal participation, reimbursements, and more; and tips for [getting involved](#) in school meal programs.

9. SNA Responds to School Meal Flexibilities Complaints

In a statement issued in April, SNA expressed its support for the December 2018 final rule on school meal flexibilities in response to lawsuits filed in New York and Maryland challenging U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) actions. "SNA appreciates USDA's efforts to preserve strong standards to benefit students while addressing long-standing challenges to ensure they choose and consume healthy school meals," said SNA President Gay Anderson, SNS. The statement noted that the final rule aligns with the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) scientific recommendations for updating school meal nutrition standards. [You can read the full statement here.](#)

10. Senate Agriculture Committee Held Hearing on Child Nutrition Reauthorization

On April 10, the Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing to gather perspectives on child nutrition reauthorization priorities. The committee heard testimony from a range of witnesses, which included Food & Nutrition Service (FNS) Administrator Brandon Lipps and SNA member Josh Mathiasmeier, Director of Nutritional Services for Kansas City (Kan.) Public Schools. [You can watch the hearing and read witnesses' written testimony here.](#)

11. Sec. Perdue Testifies at House Appropriations Subcommittee Budget Hearing

The House Appropriation Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies held a hearing on April 9 on the Department of Agriculture's Budget Request for the coming fiscal year. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue testified before the committee, and in his testimony he



discussed the Department's efforts to support flexibility for School Food Authorities. [You can watch the hearing and read witnesses' written testimony here.](#)

12. Sen. Roberts Visits Wichita Public Schools Nutrition Services

In April, Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Pat Roberts [visited](#) the Nutrition Services department of Wichita Public Schools in his home state of Kansas. As the Senator begins work on a Child Nutrition Reauthorization bill, he toured the district's Food Production Center, had a "simply outstanding lunch" with students at Brooks Magnet Middle School and met with district leadership.

You can watch a video of the Senator's visit [here](#). If you are interested in having a Representative or Senator visit your cafeteria, be sure to check out [Cafeteria Visits 101](#) for details and information on how to plan!

13. Sen. Gillibrand Introduced Bill to Eliminate Chlorpyrifos in School Meals

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand introduced the [Safe School Meals for Kids Act](#), which would phase out foods that have been treated with the insecticide chlorpyrifos. The bill would require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a threshold for chlorpyrifos in foods served in federal school meals programs and work in consultation with State and local educational agencies to provide guidance that eliminates use of the insecticide in school meal foods. Chlorpyrifos has been found to impact brain and nervous system development in infants and children exposed to low doses. Bills have been introduced to prohibit its use and a lawsuit to compel the Environmental Protection Agency to ban the substance is ongoing.