



## SNAC Bites – November 2015

Welcome to the November 2015 issue of *SNA Communication (SNAC) Bites!* *SNAC Bites* highlights new SNA programs and provides content for your state association publications, chapter meetings, and social media.

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### 1. There is still time to register for the School Nutrition Industry Conference!

Not yet registered for a conference that is designed to enhance your professional development while focusing on today's important issues and tomorrow's trends? At SNA's [School Nutrition Industry Conference \(SNIC\)](#), January 17-19, 2016, in San Diego, you can expect three days of [learning](#) dedicated to the cooperation between school nutrition operators and their industry partners to create a healthy and positive environment for the students they serve year-round.

The theme *Building Practical Solutions for School Nutrition* will focus on addressing challenges and finding solutions for K-12 foodservice professionals with a major emphasis on looking to the future of the business of school nutrition. The latest addition to our list of expert speakers is Valia Glytsis, a leadership expert. As our closing speaker, Valia, will help you understand the difference between living your lives and actually **leading** your lives –leaving you inspired and energized!

[SNIC 2016](#) will ensure that you leave sunny San Diego well equipped with new ideas, creative solutions and the enthusiasm to enhance your professional life well after this conference. Register soon [www.schoolnutrition.org/SNIC](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/SNIC) the early bird deadline is November 6, 2015.

### 2. SNA Announces Candidates for 2016 Election

Last month, the Leadership Development Committee (formerly the Nominating Committee) met during Committee Days to finalize the slate of candidates for the Association's 2016 election. After studying the biographical information on each candidate, as well as supporting documents, the Committee selected 21 candidates to fill the open positions for the Board of Directors and Leadership Development Committee. The two candidates selected to run for the position of Vice President are: Gay Anderson, SNS, Brandon (S.D.) Valley School District, and Linda Eichenberger, SNS, Oak Hills Local School District, Cincinnati, Ohio. To view the full slate of candidates, visit [www.schoolnutrition.org/SNAElection](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/SNAElection).



The election will take place over a two-week period in February 2016 (February 15-29) through a secure online voting website. Check back in early January to view biographical information for each candidate. The elected Board members will serve a three-year term, with the installation to take place at the 2016 Annual National Conference (ANC) in San Antonio. The elected Leadership Development Committee members will serve a two-year term, beginning after the election on March 1, 2016.

### 3. Don't Miss Upcoming SNA Webinars!

SNA webinars provide important training in all Professional Standards Key Areas and connect you with your SNA membership benefits. Participation in Webinar Wednesdays will help you earn CEUs toward your USDA Professional Standards annual training requirements, along with your SNA Certificate or SNS Credential. Register today for these SNA upcoming webinars:

- Tues, November 17: [Welcome Webinar for New SNA Members](#)
- Wed, November 18: [Breakfast in the Classroom Webinar Series: Serving Up the Best Data: Understanding Current Research and Evaluating Your Own Program](#)
- Tues, December 1: [Grow, Learn and Celebrate with SNA Awards & SNF Scholarships](#)
- Wed, December 9: [Media 101: Best Ways To Work With The Media](#)

All webinars are held at 2pm Eastern Time (1pmCT/Noon MT/11am PT). For more information and to access the webinar archive, please visit [schoolnutrition.org/Webinars](http://schoolnutrition.org/Webinars).

### 4. SNA Talking Points on Processed Meat

The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM), an organization that promotes vegetarian and vegan diets, recently filed a [petition](#) to USDA to ban processed meat from school lunch. The group also has launched a new "[Drop the Dog](#)" campaign, which includes a letter urging school foodservice professionals to remove processed meats from school menus. SNA has developed customizable talking points to assist members in responding to inquiries about processed meat on school menus. The talking points can be found in SNA's PR Resources webpage ([www.SchoolNutrition.org/PR](http://www.SchoolNutrition.org/PR)) or directly at [this link](#).

### 5. November is a Great Time to Recruit New Members to SNA

November 30<sup>th</sup> is the final day of this year's [Back to School Membership Drive](#). If our state association wins, we will receive a free registration to National Leadership Conference 2016. **But- you could be a winner, too!** Recruit five or more new members between **June 1, 2015** and **May 31, 2016**, and you will be automatically entered into a drawing to win 1 of 5 VIP registrations to SNA's 2017 Annual National Conference (ANC) in Atlanta, Ga.\* Start paving your way to Atlanta by recruiting one new member to SNA this November. Visit [www.schoolnutrition.org/recruit](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/recruit) for more information and complete rules.

*\*VOID WHERE RESTRICTED OR PROHIBITED BY LAW.*

### 6. Attend SNA's LAC 2016 with SNF Scholarship

The [School Nutrition Foundation](#) is now accepting applications for the [Josephine Martin National Policy Fellow](#)! The Fellow will get to attend SNA's Legislative Action Conference (LAC) with expenses up to \$3,000 paid and be recognized at the event. To apply, you must:

- Be an active SNA employee or manager section member, who has been a SNA member for at least three years, as of LAC 2016 (since no later than March 1, 2013)
- Have never previously attended LAC
- Be interested in child nutrition policy
- **Submit an [online application](#) by Monday, November 16.** Please preview the form before applying.

Director-level members are *not* eligible for this fellowship. For questions, please contact [scholarships@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:scholarships@schoolnutrition.org) or (800) 877-8822.



### **7. STEPS November Challenge: Choose a Variety of Veggies**

This November, the STEPS Challenge is all about working extra servings of veggies into your diet! All month long, make an effort to choose salads during dinner, snack on fresh veggies during the day or sneak some spinach into a morning smoothie. 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!

### **8. Win Equipment for Your School District *and* an ANC 2016 Scholarship!**

The Baxter Equipment for Education Grant will award one school district with One (1) OV310 Mini Rotating Rack Convection Oven and \$500 for the winning school district director to offset costs to attend [Annual National Conference \(ANC\)](#) in San Antonio, July 10-13, 2016.

The online grant application won't open until December 1, 2015, but only the first 50 submitted applications will be considered- so *now* is the time to get started on preparing your application! To learn more about the Baxter Equipment for Education Grant and to get a head start on your application by downloading the Application Preparation Worksheet, [click here](#).

### **9. Congress Votes to Pass Funding Bill**

On Thursday, October 29, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1314, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015. The bill establishes spending levels for the next two fiscal years, bringing some much needed progress and stability to the Appropriations process. The House passed the bill on a 266 to 167 vote. The Bipartisan Budget Act temporarily suspends implementation of Target 2 sodium standards and maintains the current 50% whole grain requirement.

Just after 3:00 am the morning of October 30, 2015, Senators passed a two-year budget agreement with a vote of 64-35. The bill, already approved by the House on Wednesday, is now being sent to President Obama to be signed into law. The legislation would raise the debt limit through March 2017, allowing the government to continue to borrow money.

### **10. Invite Your Member of Congress to Your School and Enter the LAC 2016 Sweepstakes!**

As the new school year is upon us, now is the time to invite your Member of Congress to visit your school cafeteria! You can enter to win one free trip for two to the 2016 Legislative Action Conference (LAC) and participate in SNA's Annual Charge to the Hill! Last year's Cafeteria Site Visit Sweepstakes was a huge success, but we hope to surpass it with even more Members of Congress seeing firsthand the incredible work SNA members accomplish every single day. Need assistance with hosting a Cafeteria Site Visit? Check out SNA's [Cafeteria Visit Toolkit](#).

To enter the Cafeteria Site Visit Sweepstakes, simply invite a Member of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives to your school and provide proof of the invitation or visit (email, photos, video, news stories, etc.) to SNA by **December 31, 2015**. We will accept all invitations dated back to July 1, 2015. [Click here](#) for more information on how to enter or read the [Sweepstakes Rules](#).



### **11. Participate in Giving Tuesday 2015!**

A few years ago, a non-profit group began the concept of Giving Tuesday, marking the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving as a day dedicated to giving back. On Tuesday, December 1, 2015, non-profits, families, businesses, community centers, and students around the world will come together for one common purpose: to celebrate generosity and to give.

At the School Nutrition Foundation, we celebrate Giving Tuesday with SNA members and encourage support of the Annual Fund. Now is the time to get ready for Giving Tuesday on December 1, 2015! Consider getting your colleagues and others in your state involved. Encourage them to post “UNselfies” and to spread the word on Facebook and Twitter. The goal is to have members and others make online contributions on December 1, 2015. For more ideas on ways to use Giving Tuesday to boost your state’s giving on Giving Tuesday, [click here](#).

### **12. SNA Now Accepting Award Nominations Online!**

Are you inspired by your school nutrition colleagues, friends, and mentors? Nominate someone you admire for a 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 a 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 today, please visit [www.schoolnutrition.org/SNAawards](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/SNAawards).

### **13. New USDA Guidance: Procuring Local Meat, Poultry, Game and Eggs for CN Programs**

USDA recently released [this memorandum](#) in response to a number of questions received related to buying local meat, poultry, game and eggs. The memo is intended to clarify the regulatory requirements related to food safety and answer specific questions related to these products with a series of questions and answers.

### **14. Achieve Your Education Dreams with an SNF Scholarship**

The School Nutrition Foundation will offer multiple scholarships in 2016 to SNA members who would like to achieve their education dreams by pursuing a degree program at a vocational/technical, undergraduate, graduate or post-graduate level. Professional Development scholarships provide SNA members with funding for tuition and books for the following school year.

SNF will begin accept online applications in January 2016. To find more detailed information and to download the Application Preparation Worksheet to start getting your application ready, please [click here](#).

*We hope SNAC Bites is a helpful tool for you as a state leader.  
For questions or feedback, contact [StateSupport@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:StateSupport@schoolnutrition.org).*