

Mush-On

Alaska School Nutrition Association Newsletter

March



2015

The President's Report

Dear AKSNA members,

I have enjoyed serving as your President for the last two years, and now look forward to taking over as Treasurer for Alvin Arboleda. I want to take a few minutes and thank Alvin for his hard work and dedication as our Treasurer. He has done an outstanding job and he will be missed on our Board. I want to Welcome Carlee Wells as our President and say thank you for all her hard work on putting the conference together. I also want to thank Tanya Dube for a great job at the membership and keeping Carlee together the last few days. We have three new board members and look forward to getting them up to speed at our Board retreat in April. Lori Buzzell was not able to make it to the conference but has been putting our Mush-On News together for many years. Thank you Lori! You do a great job. Especially when you would remind me to get my article in and I would always wait too late. Hope everyone has a great spring and look forward to seeing many of you in the fall.

Sandy Daws
Past-President

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Vacant

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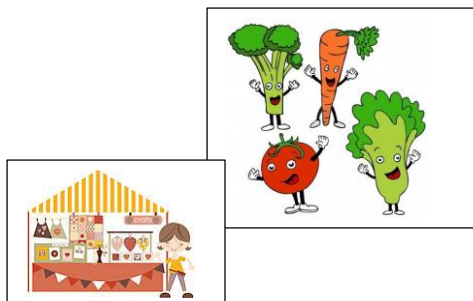
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Greg Regester
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AKSNA Conference Food Show participants say Thank You!

I would like to say Thank You to AKSNA for allowing our High School Managers from the Anchorage School District to attend the food show at this years' conference. Unfortunately we had several staffing difficulties so only 3 of our 8 High School managers were able to attend. They were Mary White (Service High School), Roxanne Bullock (Dimond High School), and Karen Enstice (East High School). East High is one of our new CEP schools and serves 800 to 900 for breakfast and over 1200 for lunch each day, all in about a half hour period. They liked seeing some products that the vendors had available and are sharing those ideas with our menu manager. They all wanted to thank AKSNA for allowing them to come to the food show and look forward to coming in the future.

Jeresa Hatwell
Coordinator, Student Nutrition
Anchorage



Monthly Highlights!

- *National School Breakfast Week* (NSBW) was **March 2-6, 2015**. Did you celebrate with a special event and would like to share it? If so, submit an article and/or picture for publication in the April Mush-On to: Lori Buzzell, AKSNA Mush-On News Editor at lori.buzzell@juneauschools.org.
- *Southeast Alaska Fish to Schools Conference*
 - **Conference Dates:** April 2-3, 2015
 - **Conference Location:** Centennial Hall, Juneau, Alaska
 - Online registration and more detailed conference information available at <http://www.seconference.org/southeast-farm-and-fish-schools-conference>.
 - **Contact** Lia Heifetz for more information growsoutheast@gmail.com.
- *AK Farm to School*
 - A great new resource giving guidance on how an organization can host a Summer Food Service Program can be found at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/AdminGuideSponsors.pdf>. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) was established to ensure that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. Free meals that meet Federal nutrition guidelines are provided to all children at approved SFSP sites in areas with significant concentrations of low-income children.
 - The Farm to School grant application for summer meal operations in Alaska can be found at: http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/ag_FTS.htm. This grant opportunity is contingent on the continued funding of the Alaska Farm to School Program.
 - USDA hosted a webinar on March 3rd to discuss the upcoming 2015 Farm to School Census. They expect to send state agencies that oversee child nutrition programs in their state draft text that includes a web link to the online Census questionnaire to forward to school districts on **Tuesday, March 17**. If you have questions contact Matthew Benson, matthew.benson@fns.usda.gov.
 - To check out the results from the first census go to: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/census#/>.
- *Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program* - FFVP eLearning Child Nutrition Programs recently published an online eLearning course for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program! The course can be accessed through the Department of Education eLearning home page at: <https://www.eed.state.ak.us/ELearning>.
- *Celebrate Your School Lunch Heroes* - Mark your calendars for School Lunch Hero Day: May 1, 2015. Schools nationwide will be honoring their cafeteria employees with celebrations, gifts, and thank-yous. Will you be recognizing your cafeteria line workers, cooks, lunch aides, and cashiers? Learn more and get inspired to say thanks at www.schoolnutrition.org/HeroDay.
- *Winston Equipment Grant* - Now in its eighth year, the Winston Industries Equipment Grant program will award 10 pieces of equipment from Winston Industries to one school district in need of improving its school meal kitchen facilities through a competitive grant process. To apply, you must: be an active SNA director-level member, who has been a member of SNA for at least one year. For details and to apply by the April 3rd deadline, [click here](#).

Dates to Remember:

April 2-3, 2015 –
Southeast Alaska Fish to Schools
Conference
Juneau, AK

April 23-25, 2015 –
National Leadership Conference
San Diego, CA

May 1, 2015 –
School Lunch Hero Day

July 12-15, 2015 –
Annual National Conference
Salt Lake City, UT