

# MUSH-ON

Alaska School Nutrition Association  
www.aksna.org



## AKSNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President:**

Josephine Dawson  
[jo.dawson@alaska.gov](mailto:jo.dawson@alaska.gov)

**President-Elect:**

Sue Lampert  
[sue.lampert@alaska.gov](mailto:sue.lampert@alaska.gov)

**Past President:**

Tanya Dube  
[tanyad@charliesproduce.com](mailto:tanyad@charliesproduce.com)

**Secretary:**

Sandie Ponte  
[sponte@cordovasd.org](mailto:sponte@cordovasd.org)

**Treasurer:**

Theresa Wilson  
[twilson@lpsd.com](mailto:twilson@lpsd.com)

**Public Policy & Legislation Chair:**

Bethy Whalen  
[marybeth\\_whelen@ksd.org](mailto:marybeth_whelen@ksd.org)

**Communications & Mush-On News Editor:**

Gavin M. Northey  
[northey\\_gavin@asdk12.org](mailto:northey_gavin@asdk12.org)

**Member Services:**

Adrienne Schwartz  
[Adrienne.schwartz@juneauschools.org](mailto:Adrienne.schwartz@juneauschools.org)

**Nutrition Standards & Education:**

Walter Williams  
[wwilliams@swrsd.org](mailto:wwilliams@swrsd.org)

**State Farm to School Representative:**

Lyssa Frohling  
[lyssa.frohling@alaska.gov](mailto:lyssa.frohling@alaska.gov)

**Members at Large:**

Geno Ceccarelli  
[geno.ceccarelli@nsbsd.org](mailto:geno.ceccarelli@nsbsd.org)

Trevor Bridgewater  
[trevor.bridgewater@k12northstar.org](mailto:trevor.bridgewater@k12northstar.org)

**RCCI Representative:**

Noni Albino  
[noni@kpccc.org](mailto:noni@kpccc.org)



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## IMPORTANT DATES

### 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference



**Meet Me in St. Louis, ANC 2019**  
14 – 16 July in St. Louis, MO

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## FUTURE LEADERS PROGRAM



Gavin Northey and Adrienne Schwartz attend the Future Leaders Program in Sarasota, Florida

## A Note from the State Association President

*Jo Dawson, SNS*

There is so much good work and good news to talk about as we close out the school year!

The national School Nutrition Association holds annual awards that are driven from the state level to the national level. This year Adrienne Schwartz with the Juneau School District was nominated for, and approved to be the Alaska Director of the Year as well as the Northwest Regional Director of the year – congratulations Adrienne!

A huge congratulations to Gavin Northey (Anchorage School District) and Adrienne Schwartz for attending the School Nutrition Association's annual Future Leadership Conference. We appreciate their time and commitment to learning more about supporting SNA and AKSNA!

During the summer months the AKSNA conference committee will continue to meet to plan an amazing 2019-2020 conference – our key note this year is Chef Garrett Berdan. The conference registration will begin this fall, so keep your eyes open for it.

One final note is that we are still looking for a few AKSNA subcommittee volunteers - one for Public Policy and Legislation and the other for Communications with an emphasis on social media. If you are interested or would like more information, please let me know.

Have a wonderful summer!

## Helping Win Over the Public on School Meals

*From SNAC Bites, May 2019*

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](http://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.

## Community Recognizes Cordova's Fish to School Program

Exert from the Cordova Times



Members of Cordova's community expressed their appreciate for Sandie Pontie and the Cordova School District's Fish to School Program in the [10 May 2019 letter to the editor](#) of the Cordova Times.

*"Many thanks to Sandie Pontie at Cordova School District for a delicious meal, and everyone at Mt. Eccles for welcoming the community in for lunch. And thanks to the Prince William Sound Gillnet fleet, local processors, and CDFU for coordinating the annual fish drive that puts healthy, local food on Cordova kids' plates every week of the year."*

## Anchorage School District Pilots Open-Feeding

Photos courtesy of the Anchorage School District



Service High School began piloting open feeding in March. The days of pre-plated trays are numbered!



## State Agency Update

Jo Dawson, SNS

Just a few reminders as you get ready for summer break:

- Please remember to register for training with Beth Seitz if you'll be attending this year,
- Stay up to date on the new meal pattern changes by following the monthly program bulletins,
- Watch for the updated reimbursement rates that come out in July,
- Provide outreach to support summer feeding programs in your area,
- But mostly, have a great summer!

Share your success! Send articles, photos, success stories, and more to share with your colleagues working across the Great State to fuel our future. Email: [news@aksna.org](mailto:news@aksna.org).