

# Mash-On

Save the Date!  
AKSNA's 52nd  
Annual  
Conference

Jan. 27-30, 2020



## A Note from the State Association President

Jo Dawson, MS, SNS

This year has been a whirlwind of activity. We are launching our first conference registration with an online registration, we're hoping this streamlines the process for attendees, but since this is our first year, please reach out to us if you experience any glitches!

Keep your eyes open for the annual nomination form, this is a survey monkey that will be sent out in a week or so and not long after that will be another email to elect the next AKSNA president; it's great to have as many members participate in this process as we can.

I look forward to seeing you all at the annual conference, it is shaping up to be a great event, and don't forget to attend the awards banquet, always a fun evening to honor your peers.

## Register for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual AKSNA Conference

Jo Dawson, MS, SNS

The 52nd AKSNA Conference will be held **January 28-30, 2019 in Anchorage, Alaska** with preconference sessions January 27. Our special keynote presenter is Chef Garrett Berdan.

Chef Garrett has a wealth of experience in school nutrition and will be sharing his tips for creative recipes and kitchen techniques. Don't miss this opportunity to be motivated by Chef Garret.

This conference will also feature preconference sessions including ServSafe and Nutrition 101. Please remember that If you already have your food safety certification, Nutrition 101 will qualify you for certification with the School Nutrition Association Level 1 <https://schoolnutrition.org/certificate-and-credentialing/certificate-program/>. Both preconference sessions do have an extra fee and include lunch.

Other sessions offered include waste reduction, processing do's and don'ts, food service management contracts, managing workplace conflict, and the fresh fruit and vegetable program. Don't miss the annual awards banquet, this is a great opportunity to network and participate in the annual apron contest – test out your sewing skills and see how much you can raise for your state association!

Registration is open now, the **early-bird discount to Tuesday, December 31, 2010**. Please find the online registration form at [www.aksna.org](http://www.aksna.org).

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### AKSNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## IMPORTANT DATES

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



## WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS

### Top 10 Steps to Managing the Procurement Process

10:00 a.m. 4 December 2019 AKST

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## About Chef Garrett Berdan

*Excerpt from GarrettBerdan.com*



Garrett Berdan is a registered dietitian nutritionist and chef. As a culinary nutrition consultant, Garrett specializes in K-12 school nutrition programs, quantity recipe development, culinary training, food communications and marketing, and spokesperson work. His career includes experience in nutrition and culinary communications, program management, culinary instruction, work as a retail dietitian, and production assistance for a Food Network television program. Garrett has written for Today's Dietitian, Food and Nutrition Magazine, and the American Journal of Lifestyle Medicine.

Garrett is a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Food and Culinary Professionals (FCP) Dietetic Practice Group, the School Nutrition Services Dietetic Practice Group, the School Nutrition Association, and the Oregon Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. He has held many elected and appointed leadership positions with both the Oregon Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and FCP.

*Excerpted from copyright protected material. The full article and more details are available from [www.garrettberdan.com](http://www.garrettberdan.com).*

## Get your Apr-On! Annual Apron Auction

*Sue Lampert*

Are you planning on attending the AKSNA Conference this year? If so please remember to bring your apron, homemade or store bought for the AKSNA Annual Apron auction. The auction will take place during the Awards Banquet with all proceeds going directly to our local chapter. Come and show off your sewing skills or your great store bought gems and join the fun.

## Register Online at [www.aksna.org](http://www.aksna.org)

*AKSNA Software Subcommittee*

We are please to offer online registration for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference. Registration is easy, go to [www.aksna.org](http://www.aksna.org). From the menu, go to Events, 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference. Attendees and vendors can register online, both provide a secure portal to transmit your credit card payment details online.

The attendee registration form ins a step-by-step form that will collect your information and you can select your registration options and add-ons such as Nutrition 101, ServSafe, and the Banquet.

The web site also contains online and printable agendas, hotel room block information, and the conference location and maps.

# 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference Schedule at a Glance

AKSNA

Full schedule available at [www.aksna.org](http://www.aksna.org).

<b>PreCon Day Monday, January 27, 2020</b>		
PreCon 1	Nutrition 101: A Taste of Food and Fitness	
PreCon 2	ServSafe Certification and Exam	
<b>Tuesday, January 28, 2020</b>		
8:15	Registration opens	Adrienne Schwartz & Theresa Wilson
8:30	Opening Remarks by AKSNA President	Jo Dawson and Sue Lampert
9:00	Key Note Speaker: Trendy and Creative Recipes Using USDA Foods with Chef Garrett Berdan	
10:15	<i>Break</i>	
10:30	SNA and Child Nutrition Program Updates	Jo Dawson
11:00	Get Connected with AKSNA	Gavin Northey and Adrienne Schwartz
<b>11:30</b>	<b><i>AKSNA Business Meeting, Election, &amp; Lunch</i></b>	
1:00	Legislative Updates	Bethy Whalen and Jennifer Meiwes
1:30 – 3:00	Developing Effective Strategies for Workplace Conflict	Rebecca Savidis, The Foraker Group
3:00	<i>Break</i>	
3:15	FFVP Rock Stars	Leon Wallace, Trevor Bridgewater, Sande Ponte
3:45	USDA Foods Annual Survey Updates	Sue Lampert
4:15	Closing and Dismissal	Sue Lampert
<b>Wednesday, January 29, 2020</b>		
8:30	Welcome and Updates	Sue Lampert
8:45	Key Note Speaker: Top Chef- Skills from the Field- Chef Garrett Berdan	
10:15	<i>Break</i>	
10:30	Is Processing USDA Foods a Good Fit?	Jesse Podratz
<b>11:30-1:00</b>	<b><i>Lunch on your own</i></b>	
1:00	Paper or Plastic?	Gavin Northey
1:30	Reducing Food Waste in Schools	Ytamar Rodriquez, Division of Environmental Health
2:30	How to Manage Your FSMC Contract	Beth Seitz, Cassee Olin, Adrienne Schwartz
3:00	<i>Break</i>	
3:15	Listen, Learn, and Lend Ideas	Roundtable Event
4:15	Closing and Dismissal	Sue Lampert
<b>6:00 – 8:30 AKSNA Banquet, location BP Center</b>		
<b>Thursday, January 30, 2020</b>		
8:30-10:30	Tours at Taco Loco and DiTomaso's Produce – Shuttle bus schedule; 8:30 a.m. bus pick up at Marriott Residence Inn 9:00 a.m. drop off at Taco Loco or DiTomaso's, 10:30 a.m. pick up at tour site and drop off at Egan Center 2:00 p.m. bus pick up at Egan Center for return to Marriott Residence Inn	
<b>11:00 -2:00</b>	<b>Vendor Show at the Egan Center, downtown Anchorage</b>	
2:00	USDA Foods Advisory Committee Meeting @ the Egan Center	

Subject to change.

## Get Connected with AKSNA Membership

Adrienne Schwartz, MBA, SNS

Greetings AK Food Service Professionals –

It is that time of year when everyone is gearing up for the AKSNA conference!

You have such an important job serving school meals to our nation's children. By belonging to SNA, you are part of something bigger than just your school or district. You are joining the 57,662 committed members from across the county who are feeding the bodies and fueling the minds of future generations. You represent all the hungry children who eat at school and **your voice matters**.

Also, by being a member of SNA, you get a support network of friends who understand the everyday challenges of the cafeteria and access to resources that help make your job easier. This includes a monthly magazine, professional development opportunities including free webinars and e-newsletters.

I love being a SNA member! My favorite part of being a member is the connections made with other members. These connections have benefitted me both personally and professionally. It is nice to know so many others throughout our state who share the same passion. By becoming a SNA member, and attending AKSNA conferences, my perspective of school food service operations in our state has expanded greatly.

If you would like more information or have questions about becoming a SNA member, please contact me anytime or visit <https://schoolnutrition.org/membership/> to join/renew your membership.

Adrienne Schwartz

AKSNA Membership Chair

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## 2020 SNA Election Ballot Announcement

SNAC Bites, November 2019

The SNA Leadership Development Committee met during the 2019 Fall Committee Days in Alexandria, VA., to review nominations for positions on the SNA Board of Directors and Leadership Development Committee. After reviewing the biographical information on each candidate, and supporting documents such as the candidate's goals and the recommendations submitted by colleagues on leadership experience and competencies, the Committee selected a slate for the 2020 election. Biographies of candidates selected for the ballot will be available online in early January 2020. The election will be held February 15-29, 2020. [Learn more](#).

## Giving Tuesday is Fast Approaching: December 3, 2019

SNAC Bites, November 2019

The holiday season is just around the corner, and we invite you to kick it off with us on Giving Tuesday! On this global day of giving, SNF's goal is to raise \$10,000 to give school nutrition professionals the life-changing gift of education. Your donation truly makes a difference. The School Nutrition Foundation supports SNA members – the *real* heroes who feed hungry children! School nutrition professionals not only serve food, they serve smiles! A donation today is a dream come true tomorrow...[Donate now!](#)



## School Nutrition **STAR** Program

**S**trategies \* **T**raining \* **A**ction Plans \* **R**esources

*Workforce Development and Job Skills Training*

### Important Dates and Details

- Registration: **Monday, January 6, through Thursday, February 6, 2020**
- Director Approval Deadline: **Friday, February 14, 2020**
- ICN Acceptance and Notification will be sent out no later than **Friday, February 21, 2020**
- Complete Pre-Requisite Courses: **April 21, 2020**
- Workshop: **April 21-23, 2020 –Anchorage, AK**
- Allowable participant travel expenses will be reimbursed by ICN
- New and exciting 12-month training program
- Formal mentoring, action plan development, and staff training
- Designed specifically for managers/site-level supervisors

For more information visit [www.theicn.org/star](http://www.theicn.org/star)

## What is STAR?

**WHO:** State of Alaska  
Managers and Site-Level  
Supervisors

**WHAT:** Formal  
Mentoring Program

**WHERE:** Anchorage,  
Alaska



**Exclusive Certificate  
and Designation  
Awarded!**

**WHEN:** April 21-23, 2020

**WHY:** Develop goals and  
best practices to improve  
school nutrition programs

## State Agency Update

Jo Dawson, MS, SNS

I hope everyone across the great state of Alaska is doing well and getting ready for the holidays, 2020 is going to be here in the blink of an eye! Two things to address really quick:

- 1.) Farm to School Census – have you filled yours out yet? Please do so, data collected can help determine the state of the state in local food purchasing as well as gardening; it may even help with grant funding in future years. If you have misplaced your survey code, just contact our new Farm to School Coordinator, Olivia Lihou, at [Olivia.lihou@alaska.gov](mailto:Olivia.lihou@alaska.gov) or 907-465-8437.
- 2.) New training opportunity – in collaboration with the Institute of Child Nutrition, we will be offering a yearlong training program directed at School Nutrition Managers. Information is attached, registration begins in January. If you are interested, please let Elizabeth Seitz know at [Elizabeth.seitz@alaska.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.seitz@alaska.gov) or 907-465-8709 and she can send you the registration information once it is released.

That's it for now, I look forward to seeing you at the conference!

## You Asked and We Answered!

SNAC Bites, November 2019

While the editorial team at [School Nutrition](#) (SN) always actively works to ensure each issue is packed full of relevant, interesting and engaging articles based upon what those in the profession want and need, we took it up a notch for the November issue. After letting readers vote on what topics they want to learn more about, the [November magazine](#) is dedicated to YOUR choices.

Thanks to reader feedback, the three main feature articles cover very diverse and interesting topics. Learn more about angel fund accounts as a means to help alleviate unpaid meal debt; discover new team-building activities great for your next managerial meeting or inservice; and study up on less-common allergens. All this and more can be found in the [November issue of SN!](#)

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).