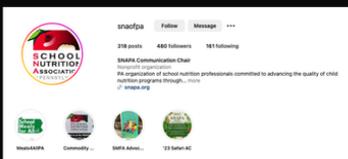
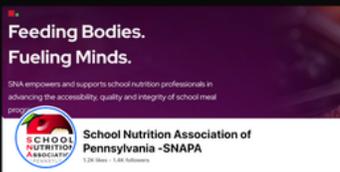
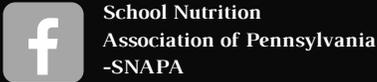




MONDAY Morning

MARCH 2, 2026

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



Celebrate National School Breakfast Week!

It's National School Breakfast Week, and SNAPA is excited to celebrate the amazing work happening in school nutrition programs across the state! This week highlights the importance of school breakfast and the teams who help students start their day ready to learn.

Show your spirit, have some fun, and spotlight your breakfast program! Be sure to snap photos and submit them to be featured in an upcoming edition of SNAPA Happenings.

Let's celebrate and make it a great week!



the quest for school breakfast

NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK

MARCH 2-6, 2026

Share your
adventures
HERE!



Pennsylvania School Breakfast Summit

“THE POWER OF SCHOOL BREAKFAST”



Join School Nutrition Program operators from across Pennsylvania to prepare to meet the new and upcoming nutrition requirements for school breakfast while increasing student participation.

The purpose of the summit is to educate School Nutrition Program Operators on the current and 2027-2028 upcoming nutrition standard changes for school breakfast, share success stories, and provide networking opportunities. The summit will include keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and vendor exhibits. Session topics will feature success stories in increasing school breakfast participation and alternate breakfast serving methods while complying with the breakfast nutrition standards, menu-planning facilitated by PDE staff, equipment ideas, recipes, and more.

When:

Thursday, April 30, 2026, 7:30 am – 3:15 pm

Where:

The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center
(215 Innovation Blvd., State College, PA)

Who:

Child Nutrition Program directors, managers, and menu planners are encouraged to attend.

Registration is free and on a first-come, first-served basis. The **registration deadline** is March 30, 2026 or until capacity is reached, whichever comes first.

This event is presented by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Bureau of Food and Nutrition (BFN), in partnership with Penn State University (Project PA). Support for this summit is provided through USDA State Administrative Expense funds.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

[Click here](#) to learn more and register for the summit.

A block of guest rooms for the night of April 29th is being held at

The Penn Stater!

[Click here](#) to book your room or call the Penn Stater at 1-814-863-5050 and use code: NUTR26A

To reserve a room in this block, reservations must be made by **March 30, 2026**.

Call for Presenters

Pennsylvania Farm to Child Nutrition Summit | 2026

The *Pennsylvania Farm to Child Nutrition Summit: Rooted in Resilience – Sustaining and Celebrating Collaborations* will be held June 17, 2026 at Bartram’s Garden in Philadelphia, PA. This summit is being coordinated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Food and Nutrition and Project PA (Penn State University) with the support of the Pennsylvania Farm to School Network. Funding is provided by a USDA Farm to School Formula grant.

Target audiences for this summit include Child Nutrition Program (CNP) operators, K–12 and early childhood education educators, producers, distributors, and other farm to school/early childhood education stakeholder groups. The purpose of the summit is to facilitate peer-to-peer learning and networking among CNP operators, establish connections between CNP operators and producers, showcase farm to child nutrition “best practices,” and deliver educational opportunities regarding the environmental, economic, nutritional, and equitable value of growing foods.

A summit planning committee consisting of representatives from state government agencies, higher education, K–12 and early childhood education, non–profit organizations, and child nutrition programs has been assembled. The committee seeks breakout session speakers who have a farm to child nutrition or local food educational experience to share or who want to engage the audience in discussion around a farm to child nutrition topic. We are interested in advancing racial and social equity and are interested in presentations that address these issues.

A limited number of speaker stipends (approximately \$300) will be made available through a selection process.

Presentations should not include any overt solicitation on behalf of any individual, vendor, product, organization, or any commercial activity.



Deadline for submission of a presentation proposal is March 2, 2026.



We are looking for presentations in the categories listed below, but will consider others.

- Connecting Child Nutrition Programs with Farmers/Producers
- Student Engagement in Farm to School or Farm to Early Care and Education
- Funding Farm to Child Nutrition Initiatives
- Overcoming Barriers to Local Purchasing
- Implementation of Pennsylvania Harvest of the Month
- School Gardens/Gardening in Early Care and Education Setting
- Summer Food Service Program Operators Connecting with Farmers/Producers, Gardens or Other Farm to Summer Activities

Proposal Review: A working group consisting of a sub–set of planning committee members will review the proposals. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Alignment with summit objectives and theme (Rooted in Resilience – Sustaining and Celebrating Collaborations)
- Relevance to target audiences
- Relevant experience in Farm to Child Nutrition
- Priority will be given to presenters within Pennsylvania
- Geographic diversity, within Pennsylvania, may be considered



[Click here to complete a presentation proposal](#)

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Taste of the Draft – Pittsburgh: Applications Now Open

Through proceeds from GENYOUth's Taste of the Draft – Pittsburgh event, 91 schools will receive a grab-and-go meal equipment package and an NFL FLAG-In-School kit — supporting both student nutrition and physical activity. Inspired by Pittsburgh pride, these resources are designed to help schools expand access to nutritious meals while creating more opportunities for students to move, play, and thrive.

What Selected Schools Will Receive:

🏈 **NFL FLAG-In-School Kit:** A turnkey package that provides equipment and curriculum resources to support inclusive, school-day physical activity and introduce students to flag football in a fun and accessible way.

🍽️ **Grab-and-Go Meal Equipment Package:** Schools will receive one of two fully assembled equipment packages:

The Steel Curtain Chill Pack

Designed for high-impact grab-and-go service:

- 2 wire meal carts with graphic panels
- 3 insulated bags
- 3 display bins
- 1 barrel cooler with smooth-rolling casters

The Black & Gold Showcase Pack

Ideal for schools looking to elevate visibility and presentation:

- 2 wire meal carts with graphic panels
- 3 insulated bags
- 3 display bins
- 1 mobile cart with stainless steel top and custom signage

TASTE OF THE DRAFT

2026 🍷 PITTSBURGH

GENYOUth.

FUELING POTENTIAL. EMPOWERING PLAY.

[Learn More HERE](#)

These resources help schools strengthen nutrition programs, increase meal participation, and support student health and success across Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania. We encourage eligible schools to apply and take advantage of this exciting opportunity.

It's Go Time! 🎬 Show Us Your School Lunch Heroes!

Peterson Farms is celebrating the dedicated school nutrition professionals who make a difference for students every day. Help recognize these outstanding individuals by submitting photos and videos of deserving school lunch heroes from your program. Selected submissions may be highlighted to showcase the passion, care, and hard work happening in school cafeterias across our communities.



IT'S GO TIME!!



Send Photos & Videos by March 13th

Check out the video above and let's celebrate School Lunch Hero Day May 1st!

[SEND MEDIA HERE](#)

SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

2026 Position Paper

The National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs (NSLP/SBP) are proven to support the health and academic achievement of America's students. These programs are a lifeline for families, struggling with high food prices and economic uncertainty, and a critical market for U.S. farmers, ranchers and producers. The School Nutrition Association calls on Congress to:

Increase investments in school meal programs to cover rising costs, expand scratch cooking, and provide students more fresh, local produce

Financial pressures are intensifying for school meal programs due to high costs and insufficient funds. In SNA's 2025 Trends Report, 80% of respondents cited rising costs (70% for labor (95%) and 70% for food) as the top concern for the sustainability of their programs. 79% of respondents cited the need to increase funding and reduce costs as their top priority. 79% of respondents cited the need to increase funding and reduce costs as their top priority.

2026 POSITION PAPER

USDA and Congress should maintain scientifically sound, operationally feasible and adequately funded federal standards. A patchwork of state standards will increase costs and procurement challenges. Federal standards increase efficiency and ensure all students have equal access to nutritious meals, regardless of where they live.

VISIT SCHOOLNUTRITION.ORG/POSITIONPAPER FOR FACT SHEETS & DATA

www.schoolnutrition.org

SNA has released its 2026 Position Paper and SY 2025-26 Trends Report outlining the Association's advocacy priorities for the new year. The report also includes data on school meal prices, unpaid student meal debt, other menu trends and operational challenges for meal programs.

Please take two minutes to share the 2026 Position Paper with your elected officials!

The Paper urges Congress to:

- Increase investments in school meal programs to cover rising costs, expand scratch cooking, and provide students more fresh, local produce
- Protect and expand access to healthy school meals for all students
- Ensure updates to federal school nutrition standards are feasible for schools

SNA members are encouraged to review the Paper and click on the "Learn more" links for detailed fact sheets, newly updated since the release of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Talking points and other advocacy resources are posted here.

REGISTER NOW

SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Magic of Innovation

SNAPA'S DIRECTOR WORKSHOP

March 16-17, 2026
Hotel Bethlehem

SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

2026-27 Board of Directors Nominations Due March 3rd!

Have you ever thought about being part of something truly awesome? Well, now's your chance! SNAPA has been cooking up some cool initiatives to revolutionize school nutrition across Pennsylvania, and we need your fresh ideas and energy to take things to the next level!

Picture this: you, alongside a team of passionate individuals, making a real difference in the lives of students statewide. From innovative programs to policy changes, the possibilities are endless when we work together!

So why not toss your apron into the ring and nominate yourself (or recommend a colleague who's got that extra sprinkle of enthusiasm to nominate themselves) for a spot on the board? It's easy-peasy – just shoot us your nomination by March 3rd and let the fun begin!

Join us in the kitchen as we cook up some magic for the kids of Pennsylvania!

[Click HERE to Submit
SNAPA Board Nominations](#)

Thank You Partners!



AMERICAN DAIRY
ASSOCIATION NORTH
EAST



Moccia Enterprises, Inc.
Since 1963.



Axion Foodservice
BradyPLUS (PJP)
Domino's Smart Slice
Food Safety Solutions LLC
General Mills Foodservice
Gold Star Foods
High Liner Foods

International Food Solutions
J.R. Simplot Company
J&J Snack Foods
Kellanova
Land O'Lakes
National Food Group / ZeeZee's
Pilgrim's
Red Gold LLC

Rich's Ice Cream/J&J Snack Foods
Schwan's Food Service
Starliper Associates
Super Bakery, Inc.
Turner Dairy Farms Inc.
Tyson Foods
WK Kellogg

Upcoming Dates

March 6
SNF Equipment Grant
applications due

March 26, 2026
PA Farm to School
Network Virtual Open
House

March 2-6, 2026 National
School Breakfast Week

March 8-10, 2026
Legislative Action
Conference (LAC)

March 16-17, 2026
SNAPA Director
Workshop

April 23-25, 2026
National Leadership
Conference (NLC)

July 12-14, 2026
Annual National
Conference (ANC)

July 29-31, 2026
2026 SNAPA Annual
Conference

