



# FOOD FOR THOUGHT NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024

## 2024 Annual Conference Registration

Join us for the highly anticipated ISNA Annual Conference in South Bend, Indiana, on November 6 through the 8, 2024! This premier event promises two days of invaluable insights and networking opportunities tailored for school nutrition professionals. With a focus on “Making A Difference Every Day,” the conference will feature renowned speakers, interactive sessions, and a chance to connect with peers across the state. Don’t miss out on this occasion to advance your professional development and engage with the latest trends in school nutrition education. Secure your spot today and be part of an inspiring and transformative experience! Early Bird registration closes on September 20 and regular registration closes on October 31. Register by selecting the “Register Now” icon below.



**2024 Annual Conference**  
SOUTH BEND, IN  
November 6 - 8

REGISTRATION TYPE	EARLY BIRD 09/20/24	REGULAR
Full Conference: Member	\$375	\$425
Full Conference: Non-Member	\$425	\$475
Student / Retired	\$200	\$200
REGISTRATION TYPE	MEMBER	NON MEMBER
1 Day Only: Wed or Fri	\$190	\$240
Thursday Only (Expo Hall Day)	\$300	\$350

**Notice the Exhibit  
Hall Will Now be  
Held on Thursday,  
Nov 7th!**

**Register Now**



# Shaping the Future of School Nutrition: Highlights from SNA's 2024 Annual National Conference

The School Nutrition Association (SNA) recently hosted the 2024 Annual National Conference (ANC24) from July 14-16 in Boston, Massachusetts. With the theme "Shaping Tomorrow Together," this year's conference was a testament to the power of collaboration, innovation, and a shared commitment to advancing school nutrition.

## A Star-Studded Lineup

The conference kicked off with an inspiring opening keynote by Chef Andrew Zimmern, a renowned Emmy-winning chef, writer, and TV personality. Zimmern, known for his work on the Travel Channel's *Bizarre Foods* and *The Zimmern List*, captivated attendees with his insights into cultural acceptance and the role of food in fostering global understanding. His address, sponsored by PrimoEdge, set a dynamic tone for the conference, emphasizing the importance of exploring new perspectives and promoting inclusivity through nutrition.

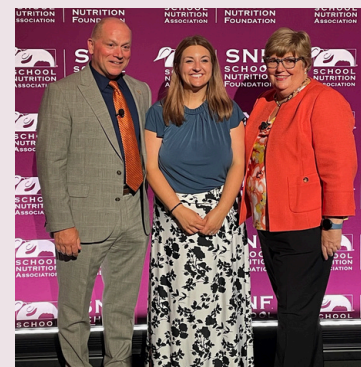
The closing keynote featured NASA engineer and astronaut José Hernandez. Known for his role as a flight engineer on the STS-128 mission aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery, Hernandez shared his experiences and advice on overcoming challenges to achieve goals. Now a consultant for Tierra Luna Engineering, Hernandez offered valuable lessons on strategic growth and innovation. His talk resonated with the audience, reinforcing the conference's theme of shaping a better future through a collaborative effort.

## A Commitment to Positive Change

The 2024 ANC was more than just a series of presentations and performances; it was a rallying point for school nutrition professionals dedicated to making a difference. The conference provided a platform for sharing knowledge, exploring new solutions, and forging connections that will drive the future of school nutrition.

The emphasis on collaboration and continuous improvement highlighted the collective mission to ensure that every child has access to nutritious meals that support their growth and development. As attendees left Boston, they carried with them not only new ideas and strategies but also a renewed sense of purpose and community.

The success of #ANC24 underscores the vital role of such gatherings in advancing the field of school nutrition and the ongoing commitment to shaping a brighter future for all students.





# Meet Your 2024/25 ISNA President



**Amanda Worrick, DTR**

Amanda Worrick, DTR, is the Director of Nutrition Services at the South Madison Community School Corporation, bringing 23 years of foodservice experience, including nine years dedicated to K-12 child nutrition. Outside of her professional life, Amanda enjoys family life with her husband, Joey, and their two daughters, Gracie and Sophia, who are both students at Ball State University.

What is your favorite school lunch?

"Currently Baked Potato Bar, as a kid Johnny Marzetti."

What is your favorite thing about ISNA?

"I have to say the networking. Professional development is top notch as well but the best thing for me is all the wonderful people I have met, friends I have made and peers I know I can count on and ask absolutely anything to. I LOVE how we help each other and are not in competition with each other. We all want school nutrition programs to succeed."

Share your favorite memory from an ISNA conference:

"Oh man, I have so many! I have to go with being called to the stage during the dueling piano bar the last time we were in South Bend and getting serenaded by Evan Barnum-Steggerda."

## September Certificate Sessions



### **Product and Inventory Management (CIESC) 9:00 a.m. EST\***

Course Objectives:

- Review stakeholders' responsibilities and expectations
- Discuss how the menu determines the goods and services that must be competitively procured
- Review basic concepts of inventory management, product movement, and cost management
- Summarize the types of items that are associated with a specific product category
- Create a sample product screening evaluation tool
- Practice writing a mock product specification
- Examine the features of a Child Nutrition Label
- Discuss the importance of accurately forecasting products

### **Menu Planning Regulations and Concepts (CIESC) 12:30 p.m. EST\***

Course Objectives:

- Understand what constitutes a Reimbursable School Meal.
- Be able to identify each of the components necessary for a school lunch, breakfast, and snack.
- Understand Offer vs. Serve (OVS) for each meal part.
- Learn tools to evaluate the menu.

\*\*\*If you are registering for both morning and afternoon courses, lunch will be served at the conclusion of the morning course.

**Register Here**

# Want to be compensated for your training abilities?

**Earn  
\$375 - \$500  
to Facilitate  
ISNA/IDOE  
Courses.**

## **Scope of Work:**

The successful respondents to this request will be expected to review, prepare for and deliver a 3-hour course on each of the selected topics using the training materials provided by ISNA. The materials provided include a Participant's Manual, an Instructor's Manual, a PowerPoint presentation and both pre and post-assessments. The target audience is school nutrition Directors who are working on the ISNA/IDOE School Nutrition Certificate, although the course will be open to all interested school nutrition professionals.

## **Qualifications and Trainer Response:**

Respondents should have expertise or experience related to school nutrition program finances. Ideal candidates include those holding the SNS credential.

## **The response to the request for trainers must include:**

- Up to date resume
- List of previous training/presentations provided related to topic(s) in which you are proposing to teach
- One to two letters of recommendation from groups to which you have presented.

**\*\*\*This is not necessary if you have previously presented for ISNA.**

- Explanation as to why you feel that you are qualified and would like to present this information.

## **Consultant Responsibilities:**

- Provide own computer that can run MS PowerPoint Version 2007 or higher.
- Provide own transportation to the training site when in person.
- Review, prepare for and deliver 3 hours of instruction and activities, per the Instructor's Manual, in an engaging style to 25-35 participants.
- Be familiar with instruction via Zoom including screen sharing, using polls, and breakout rooms to enhance learning experience when delivering a virtual course.

## **ISNA Responsibilities (In-person courses):**

- Provide the trainer a copy of the Instructor and Participant Manuals as well as the PowerPoint Presentation in advance of the class.
- Provide participants with name badges, manuals, handouts, and any materials required.
- Provide logistical coordination with the course venue.
- Provide meeting room for participants.
- Provide food and beverage for breaks/meals when applicable.
- Provide LCD projector that can connect to PC based computer and screen (if needed)
- Provide microphone and sound system (if needed)

## **ISNA Responsibilities (Zoom courses):**

- Provide the trainer a copy of the Instructor and Participant Manuals as well as the PowerPoint Presentation in advance of the class.
- Host the training using the ISNA Zoom account.
- Coordinate the Zoom registration and provide a representative to assist in managing the chat box and breakout rooms when needed.

[Click Here To  
Become a  
Trainer](#)

**Response Deadline: Friday September 20, 2024**

# Make YOUR Difference & Present at the 2024 ISNA Annual Conference!

Are you passionate about school nutrition and eager to share your expertise? ISNA is excited to announce session idea submission is LIVE NOW for our Annual Conference, happening November 6-8, 2024, in South Bend, Indiana!

This is your chance to make a lasting impact by presenting your innovative ideas, strategies, and perspectives to your peers. We're looking for dynamic and engaging sessions that cover a wide range of topics, including leadership development, budget management, hands-on culinary skills, and more. Whether you're an experienced speaker or a first-time presenter, we welcome your insights and are here to support you in crafting a compelling proposal.

Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to a pivotal annual event. Submit your session ideas today and help us make the 2024 ISNA Annual Conference the most inspiring one yet! Click the link below to learn more and start your submission.

[Submit Here](#)

We can't wait to see the incredible ideas you'll bring to South Bend. Let's create an unforgettable experience together!



Submission Deadline: Friday, **August 30th, at 5:00 p.m.**

Notification Date: Selected speakers will be contacted in September to begin planning.

Available spots: 16-18 breakout session slots to ensure a wide range of topics and plenty of CEUs for attendees.

## THANK YOU PARTNERS!



**Buena Vista Foods**  
**Butterball**  
**Cavendish Farms**

**Classic Delight**  
**ConAgra**  
**Danone North America**

# Get Involved, Get Ahead: Join a Committee Today!

Are you ready to make a real impact on the world of school nutrition? Your chance to contribute and excel is here! ISNA is excited to announce that we are actively seeking enthusiastic volunteers like you to take up essential roles within our vibrant committees. The best part? Most committee meetings are conveniently virtual, so you can participate from the comfort of your own space.

These volunteer opportunities are more than just positions – they are pathways to personal growth, professional development, and the possibility of future ISNA leadership opportunities. We believe that every member brings a unique perspective to the table, and we want to hear yours.

## Committee Opportunities:

- Bylaws and Policy Committee
- Legislative Committee
- Membership Committee
- Professional Development Committee
- Public Relations Committee

For More Info  
Click Here

**Interest Form Deadline: October 16th**

U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Education are thrilled to be teaming up with a wide range of education and school meal partners to celebrate the back to school season and the important role school meals play in providing the fuel kids need to succeed in the classroom. Most importantly, we want to thank the champions that educate and nourish our nation's school children every day.



USDA | ED

### VIRTUAL BACK TO SCHOOL PEP RALLY

Celebrating Healthy School Meals with



U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**Secretary Vilsack**



U.S. Department of Education  
**Secretary Cardona**

Featuring an introduction from  
Neera Tanden, Domestic Policy Advisor to the President

**August 29, 2024**  
10:45 AM PT | 12:45 PM CT | 1:45 PM ET  
This event will be livestreamed on [usda.gov/live](https://usda.gov/live)

Please share this invite with your networks.  
Hope to see you there!

To learn more about how USDA's Food and Nutrition Service is celebrating school meals this back-to-school season, check out our [Back2School Toolkit](#). The toolkit includes key messages, videos, sample social media content flyers, & factsheets.

**Live Stream Here**