The Alabama School Nutrition Association (ASNA) annual conference is just a few weeks away. Get ready for an exciting conference February 28-29, 2020, in Montgomery, Alabama, as the ASNA family comes together to LEAP for Good Nutrition: Leadership, Education, Advocacy, and Policy.

Just like last year’s conference, all conference registration information must be done online through the association’s website, www.alabamasna.org. There is no other way to register for the conference and submit other information traditionally done through paper applications.

The purpose for the change is to improve accuracy in the registration process and collection of other important information for awards and recognitions.

The registration process is very simple. Open the internet on your computer and type www.alabamasna.org. On the homepage you will see four large boxes. Click on the box labeled “Annual Conference.” Scroll down the page for “Please click here to register for the conference.” Next, click on the LEAP frog, which takes you to a screen that has a green box that says “Tickets.” Select the number of people you are registering for the conference. Click “Checkout.” Fill in the required information. This link is where you will select your size for the conference T-Shirt. At the bottom of the screen, click to accept the Additional Terms and select your payment method.

You must register for the conference before hotel reservations can be made. You will follow this same process to register for the Specialized Training course “CNP Financial Management” to be held Friday, February 28. Deadline for Early Bird registration is February 7, 2020. Registration closes February 21 (no exceptions.) No onsite registration will be accepted at the conference. Only credit card payments can be accepted – no cash or personal checks.

If you have any problems with the registration process, please contact Jennifer Gilbert at jgilbert@bessK-12.org.

We look forward to seeing you at the 57th Annual Conference of the Alabama School Nutrition Association!
Greetings ASNA Members,

It truly is an honor to serve as the Alabama School Nutrition Association President for the 2019-2020 school year. I feel privileged to have the opportunity to lead such a prestigious group of hard working and genuine professionals. The time and energy you all put into making our students feel valued is commendable to say the least.

We have had a busy year of training at our annual Leadership Academy “Stronger Together,” and the results have been tremendous for our growth. The work that has gone into collaborating with peers at district meetings throughout the state, increasing membership and hosting ASNA fundraisers has not gone unnoticed. Also, I am grateful for the zeal and effort that has gone into planning the state conference for February 28-29, 2020.

Our School Nutrition Association is made up of capable, well-rounded individuals who have gone above and beyond to nourish our treasured students. I look forward to the new year as we continue to fuel healthy living by developing nutritious and delicious meals for our schools. I can’t wait to see each of you in Montgomery!

Jennifer Gilbert
ASNA President
2019-2020

President ......................................................... Jennifer Gilbert
Bessemer City Schools

President-Elect .................................................. Tonya Grier
Dothan City Schools

Vice President .................................................. Carlton Robertson
Tuscaloosa City Schools

Past President ................................................... Dr. Ashley Powell
Auburn City Schools

Recording Secretary ......................................... Sonja Anthony
Jefferson County Schools

Treasurer .......................................................... Julie Harmon
Enterprise City Schools

This publication is by the Alabama School Nutrition Association.
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The 2019–2020 ASNA Board of Directors

ASNA Mission Statement:
ASNA is the statewide organization supporting the professional growth of school nutrition professionals, and advancing the quality of child nutrition programs through education and advocacy.
Voting for officers of the Alabama School Nutrition Association will take place during the Annual Conference in Montgomery. Votes will be cast on Friday and Saturday of the conference until 12:00 noon.

Candidates for vice president are Amanda Bridges Dunn, CNP Supervisor at Jefferson County Schools, and Donette Worthy, CNP Director at Tuscaloosa County Schools.

Multi-Unit Chair candidates are Shan Burkhardt, CNP Director at Andalusia City Schools, and Tandy Norris, CNP Director at Athens City Schools.

Recording secretary candidates are Sonja Anthony, CNP Director at Jefferson County, and Tori Andrich, CNP Manager at Oak Mountain High School in Shelby County.

For information about these outstanding candidates, visit the website at www.alabamasna.org and click on the Annual Conference box. Scroll to the bottom of the next screen for “Click Here for Officer Candidates for 2020” and read all about the qualifications of these candidates.

If you are a member of ASNA and unable to attend the conference, you can still cast a vote for your candidate of choice. Go to the same page on the website where the link for the officer candidates is located, and underneath is the link to request an absentee ballot. Complete this form and return it to the appropriate address by February 3 to receive an absentee ballot to vote for officers.

Let your voice be heard by voting for new ASNA officers for 2020!

Alabama’s Stephanie Dillard on SNA Ballot!!!

Alabama SNA members have an opportunity to make an impact at the national level! Your chance will be coming February 15-29, 2020, when SNA opens the portal for online voting for officers. What makes this year’s elections so important is that Alabama’s Stephanie Dillard is a candidate for SNA Secretary/Treasurer! Stephanie is CNP director at Geneva County and has been an active member of Alabama SNA for many years. She served our association as president in 2014-2015. Additionally, Stephanie has chaired several committees and provided sound leadership for ASNA. She also has served the national organization as a member of the PPL committee and board member-at-large.

Get involved with SNA at the highest level by casting your vote for Alabama’s Stephanie Dillard for SNA Secretary/Treasurer! All voting will be online from the SNA website at www.schoolnutrition.org.

The Alabama School Nutrition Association is an alliance of over 2000 + Alabama school food service employees and supporters.
ALABAMA SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION’S 57th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Theme:
LEAP for Good Nutrition
Leadership ♦ Education ♦ Advocacy ♦ Policy

Program at a Glance

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27**
8:00 am – 12:00 pm  SNS Credentialing Exam
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm  ALSDE Child Nutrition Program Directors’ Spring Conference

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28**
10:00 am – 6:00 pm  ASNA Conference Registration
8:00 am – 3:00 pm  Specialized Training **Pre-registration Required**
8:30 am – 11:00 am  ALSDE Child Nutrition Program Directors’ Spring Conference
10:00 am – 3:00 pm  ASNA Officer Elections
12:00 pm – 6:00 pm  Exhibits Open
6:00 pm – 7:15 pm  Opening Ceremony / Dinner
7:15 pm – 9:45 pm  ASNA Game Night / Photo Booth

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29**
6:00 am – 6:45 am  ASNA Wellness Event
7:00 am – 9:00 am  ASNA Conference Registration
7:15 am – 7:30 am  HOD Orientation
7:30 am – 8:45 am  House of Delegates
7:30 am – 10:00 am  ASNA Officer Elections
7:30 am – 10:30 am  Education Sessions
10:45 am – 12:15 pm  General Session / Brunch
12:30 pm – 4:45 pm  Education Sessions
5:15 pm – 5:45 pm  Group Photos
5:45 pm – 7:30 pm  Closing Session / Installation of Officers

ASNA is a state affiliate to the School Nutrition Association (SNA), which represents over 53,000 individuals who have made a commitment to child nutrition.
Table Decorations Add To Conference Fun!

Each ASNA conference has a unique flavor just like the unique and wonderful Child Nutrition professionals who serve Alabama’s children. Back by popular demand this year is the Game Night of casino-style fun for prizes. You definitely want to be part of the excitement!

A new feature added to the conference will be a Table Decorating contest. If you want to avoid standing in line to get a good table for the meals, this is the way to go! Put together a team of 6-10 people and purchase a table for $10. Send your money and entry form to the address listed on the form. Table assignments will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis. This will guarantee your table for Saturday’s General Session brunch and the evening dinner and awards recognition. You and your team of friends will be together every time with no waiting.

Decorate your table in your own style according to the conference theme LEAP into Good Nutrition. Remember to save room for place settings! Try to assemble as much of the centerpiece as you can before arrival. Set up will be Saturday morning from 8-8:30, with judging at 8:45 a.m.

All entries must be homemade. No pre-made flower arrangements or store bought centerpieces will be allowed. All groups participating in the contest will be recognized, and ribbons presented for first, second, and third place winners.

Show your style and creativity by reserving your table today!

NAME OF TEAM: ________________________________
NUMBER OF TEAM MEMBERS: _________________
NAME OF TEAM CAPTAIN: _______________________
CELL PHONE CONTACT NUMBER: ________________
ASNA DISTRICT NUMBER: _________________
SCHOOL SYSTEM NAME: ______________________
SCHOOL NAME: ______________________________

Mail this completed form and entry fee (check or money order payable to ASNA) to:
Lindsay Bell, CNP Supervisor
Dothan City Schools CNP
1665 Honeysuckle Road
Dothan, AL 36305

ASNA at ANC

Alabama SNA made a strong presence at the School Nutrition Association annual national conference in Kansas City last summer. Members who attended ANC grew in professional development and learned about the exciting products and services on exhibit at the Expo. Known as the “Event of the Year,” ANC provides unparalleled opportunities for networking and educational experience in school nutrition. The next ANC will be close to home in Nashville, TN July 12-14. Come join the fun and experience how SNA can help you grow as a child nutrition professional.

ASNA promotes the highest standards for child nutrition programs.
ASNA Legislative Action

Every school day 30 million children depend on school nutrition programs to nourish their bodies and minds. School nutrition programs are expected to operate as businesses, without relying on school district funds. ASNA and SNA play a vital role in keeping Child Nutrition and the children of Alabama front and center with elected officials at all levels.

Last March ASNA hosted a Legislative Breakfast at the State House in Montgomery to show state legislators just how great school breakfast really is! The association had great support for the event from members and industry representatives.

Additionally, a team of ASNA leaders travel to Washington, DC every year to “Charge the Hill” and meet with congressional leaders to promote Child Nutrition initiatives.

All members are encouraged to get to know their local, state, and national legislative leaders and keep them informed on Child Nutrition matters in your district. Advocacy for our program is essential in achieving our goal of feeding hungry children.

ASNA members host a Legislative Breakfast at the Alabama State House.

Congressman Mike Rogers learned more about Child Nutrition from these ASNA representatives.

ASNA leaders met with Congresswoman Martha Roby.

ASNA members prepare to "Charge the Hill" in Washington at LAC.

ASNA provides leadership training and other professional development opportunities to our members.
Red Carpet Awards

Congratulations to the Red Carpet Award honorees who were recognized at ANC 2019. Helen Gaskin was named ASNA Employee of the Year; Dr. Ashley Powell was recognized as ASNA state president; Lisa Herd Blackburn was chosen as ASNA Manager of the Year; and Marty Tatara was named ASNA Director of the Year.

Support ASNA with these great fundraisers!

Everyone enjoys a beautiful yard blooming with seasonal flowers, and ASNA can help you have your own extraordinary landscape! ASNA has partnered with Dutch Mill Bulbs to provide seasonal bulbs at a great value. Members can select from a variety of spring bulbs such as Caladium, Gladiolus, Lilies, Freesia, Hosta, Lavender, Shamrock, and Peacock Orchid. Fall bulbs include varieties of Daffodils, Tulips, Paper Whites, Crocus, Blue Bells, and Hyacinths.

Go to the ASNA website at www.alabamasna.org and click on the Fundraiser link for details. Make your yard the talk of the neighborhood and put a little color in your life by purchasing these lovely bulbs.

Other ASNA fundraisers include purchasing car tags for $10 and magnets for $3.50. Contact Tori Andrich at tandrich@shelbyed.org for details.

Additionally, the ASNA T-shirt sale has begun. Show your support for school nutrition by purchasing the new “Stronger Together” t-shirt. Orders are due January 15 and shirts can be picked up at the conference.

ASNA communicates important issues of common concern to members and is a valuable tool to support Child Nutrition professionals!
Conference Registration Checklist

Go to www.alabamasna.org for the following forms:

Annual Conference tab:
✓ Conference Registration
✓ Table Decorating Contest Form
✓ Fun Awards
✓ Specialized Training
✓ Absentee Ballot Request

Click the Fundraiser tab for:
✓ "Stronger Together" Fundraiser T-shirt
✓ Flower bulbs Fundraiser

2020 Annual ASNA Conference
Montgomery, Alabama
February 28-29, 2020

You must register for the conference before making hotel reservations

Marriott hotel(s) offering your special group rate:
Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center
$154 USD per night
Reservations can be made by calling 1-877-545-0311 or 1-334-481-5000.

Online reservations can be made by clicking on the link at www.alabamasna.org

Over flow Hotel Embassy Suite at 334-269-5055.