School Nutrition Association of South Carolina Annual Conference and Expo~~October 14-16, 2021 Expo~~Friday, October 15, 2021

Q & A Regarding Conference and Expo



What is the Conference Theme?

HEROES On The Front Line of Hunger~~We are recognizing our District Staff--to include Directors, Supervisors, Managers, Operators, and all who work hard each day to provide meals to over 700,000 South Carolina's children. Many of our staffs have gone above and beyond during this very difficult time of COVID-19.

What are the show colors? Purple and gold (also white for the expo)

Will we be able to cook?

At the present time, it appears that you will be able to cook. However, we are working with the Convention Center and Health Department and will keep you updated on any changes.

What is the schedule for Exhibitors? --see page 4 of the expo packet

What are the show hours?

Friday beginning at 12 noon for the directors, supervisors, buyers and all attendees beginning at 2:30 p.m.

What time does the expo end?

Friday beginning at 5:00 p.m. you may begin the move-out process. Please note that you are to wait until 5:00 p.m. as some attendees will be arriving after school is over. Additionally, it is not safe for our attendees to be in the expo hall when you begin the move-out process.

Can I make donations and/or participate in sponsorship opportunities?

Yes, our attendees are very excited when we have opportunities to provide door prizes, etc. Please see page 10 in the exhibitor packet for sponsorship opportunities.

Can I pay by credit/debit card?

Yes, our treasurer will provide you with an email receipt. Please see page 11 in the exhibitor packet for the payment process.

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What is the Vendor Parade during the General Session?

Each vendor will have the opportunity to walk across the stage and give your name and invite attendees to stop by your booth and you can also provide your booth number...this will be a very swift process and you will have time to get back to your booth.

What is the Vendor Reception at Top Golf?

This is an excellent opportunity for you to network with the district directors, supervisors, and buyers. The cost for the ticket package is included on page 4 of the exhibitor packet. You will not want to miss this opportunity to talk to the district decision makers.

When can I select my booth(s)?

You will have an opportunity to select your booth before the end of summer. This will all depend on our communication with the convention center. We will follow the guidelines for the selection of booths as outlined in the exhibitor packet (based on sponsorship level and date contract received).

Will I have to sign a COVID-19 Event Waiver?

Yes, the waiver is on page 8 in the exhibitor packet.

What is the hotel and cost?

Our host hotel is the Sheraton which is next to the convention center. The rate is \$96 plus taxes. The link to reserve rooms is in the expo packet on page 12 or you can just call the hotel and let them know you are with the School Nutrition Association of SC. The parking has been reduced to \$4. There is no cost to park in the convention center parking lot—just let them know you are with the School Nutrition Association of SC.

How many district attendees will there be at the conference?

At this point, we have no way to make that determination. Our Board will be sending out a survey to our districts during the summer and will keep you posted on the counts.

Will a listing be provided of the attendees?

Yes, this year, I will send to the exhibitors who reserved booth(s), a listing by district of the directors, supervisors, buyers. Please note that all district attendees may not be listed (only the district office). Additionally, we hope to provide a listing of attendees from our charter, private, residential childcare centers, etc.)

Will I receive a directory?

Yes, prior to attending, a directory will be sent to all of the registered exhibitors. This directory will include all of the South Carolina district directors/supervisors, along with the charter, private, residential childcare centers, etc. The directory will also include the state office staff and SNA of SC Board.

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Will I be able to attend sessions and classes?

Yes, all registered exhibitors will be able to attend any sessions/classes of the conference. Our conference chair and the committee are putting together a variety of classes for our attendees. The program agenda will be provided on an APP so that it will be easily accessible for your use. All conference information will be provided on the APP. Again, all registered exhibitors will receive that link to the APP prior to the conference.

How will I know of Expo information, changes, etc.?

As noted, I will send emails and updated information will be posted on our website: <u>www.schoolnutritionsc.com</u>. (Click on the Quick Links at the top far right of the website and select Expo 2021. Conference information will be under Annual Conference 2021).

Who is the conference decorator and contact for tables, etc.?

Our decorator is The George Fern Company, <u>mwelch@fernexpo.com</u>; 800-774-2251, Ext 1, <u>https://www.fernoneview.com</u>

Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or if you need more information.

Joyce

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