

Welcome to the start of our 2017/2018 school year

#Mission for Child Nutrition!

Our mission as Child Nutrition Professionals of Washington State is “Educating and empowering WSNA members to provide healthy meals to foster an environment where children achieve overall wellness and lifelong success”. It takes special individuals (Everyday Heroes) to take on this mission. Kitchen staff, managers, directors, OSPI, Industry, and many other organization step-up every day to provide nutritional food so that our children can grow and learn.

My journey on this mission started about 18 years ago when I started as substitute kitchen employee at Bothell High School washing dishes. I joined WSNA and my journey began as a Nutritional Child Professional, first as Chapter President, then Area 1 Representative and then Membership Chair (time flies when you are having fun). It never occurred to me three years ago when asked to consider running for WSNA Vice President that I would want to, or actually become, the president of WSNA. I looked within and the answer was “Yes, I can do this,” followed by “Did I just say that?”. It was not easy to accept this Mission, but you are never alone with this association. There is always someone there to help you! I challenge each one of you to look within and see if there is a voice calling you to say YES to stepping up to serve in your local chapters (or start one) or to get involved in WSNA. I can assure you that you will grow personally and professionally!

In Atlanta at the SNA National Conference, I had an opportunity to hear Captains Mark and Scott Kelly, highly decorated NASA astronauts, speak. As I listened to their stories, I realized that School Nutrition Association is like NASA:

We have a Mission: Feed Bodies & Fuel Minds

As Food Service Professionals, we need to be ready!

Emotionally, Physically and Mentally

Just like the NASA, it is not just one individual that goes on a mission it takes a team. WSNA provides our team with opportunities of education, teamwork, and leadership. That helps us to face and overcome adversities and effectively adapt to changes in our industry.

It will be my honor to serve you and the WSNA Board this year as your servant president and to enable our association to grow.