

Food Day 2012 on the Sacramento State campus, 6000 J St.



Sacramento State Food Day Panel Discussion:  
**Achievements and Challenges in the School Food Environment**

**Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm in the Terrace Suite in the Well**

The school food environment—its physical, social, and educational surroundings—has become a focus in the public policy debate on promoting healthy and sustainable food choices. With over 900 million school meals served annually and its abundant agricultural production, California can take a leading role in reshaping the school food environment in this context.

The panel will discuss recent achievements and challenges starting with practitioners' perspectives, highlight the role of advocacy groups, state legislature and governmental initiatives and policy to encourage civic engagement and individual informed decision making, and take questions from the audience. Please join us for this exciting event free and open to the public!

**Panel Speakers:**

- **Brenda Padilla and Diana Flores, Food Nutrition Director and Supervisor for Sacramento City School District**
- **Dawn Dunlap, Health and Nutrition Educator, Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op**
- **Markell Lewis, Nutrition Policy Advocate with California Food Policy Advocates**
- **Roger Dickinson, California State Assemblymember**
- **Dr. Ron Chapman, Director of the Department for Public Health**
- **Steve Boilard, Director of the Center for California Studies**

Moderator: Kristin Kiesel, Assistant Professor in Economics, Sacramento State



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### **Short Bios:**

**Brenda Padilla** is the Manager of the Sacramento City Unified School District, Nutrition Services Department since January 2011. She has been directly involved in school nutrition programs in California since 1988 serving as the Assistant Director of Nutrition Services for the California Department of Education and the Director of School Nutrition programs for several California districts including Chico, Vacaville, and Fairfield-Suisun Unified. She is also the recipient of the national School Nutrition Association F.A.M.E. (Food Administration Management Excellence) recognition award for excellence in schools. As a leader in the California School Nutrition Association, Brenda served as President of the local Supervisory Chapter and Chair of the Public Policy & Legislative committee.

Brenda has a Master's degree in Human Nutrition from the University of Bridgeport, Connecticut and a Bachelor of Science degree in Dietetics and Food Service Administration from University of California at Davis.

**Dawn Dunlap** is the Health & Nutrition Educator at the Sacramento Natural Foods Cooperative and in that role is developing a nutrition education program targeting low-income populations. She has a diverse background in nutrition that includes extensive experience in development of nutrition education programs, leadership on local, regional & state policy to support access to healthy food, and advocacy to reduce obesity and food insecurity. She serves on SCUSD's Healthy Foods Task Force, the Sacramento Hunger Coalition, the Coalition for Regional Equity, and is a Board Member of Alchemist Community Development Corporation.

Dawn has a Bachelor of Science degree in Dietetics from San Francisco State and is passionate about supporting local agriculture, social equity, and policy & education that enables all people to have access to healthy foods as well as experiential education to learn how to prepare healthy meals.

**Markell Lewis** joined California Food Policy Advocates in 2011 and works on child nutrition program projects. She coordinates the REAL School Food Initiative which builds on input from food service directors and partners across the state to work on strategies and policy opportunities in support of freshly prepared school meals made from whole and minimally processed ingredients. Markell also contributes to Afterschool Meal Program advocacy efforts, and the BreakfastFirst Campaign to ensure that more low-income Californians have nutritious meals available at school.

A former chef, Markell is committed to making sure that California kids have access to nutritious, affordable, and appealing food. She received her Master of Public Health at UC Berkeley in the Public Health Nutrition Program.

**Roger Dickinson** was elected in November 2010 and represents the 9th Assembly District which includes the City of Sacramento. He has established himself as an effective lawmaker and serves as Chair of the Assembly Banking and Finance Committee and several other Assembly committees. Prior to his election, Dickinson served on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and participated in numerous community organizations. He spent seven and a half years with the California Department of Consumer Affairs where he oversaw a statewide project to improve small claims court and worked in a private practice, litigating cases up to the California Supreme Court.

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Dickinson received his undergraduate degree from the UC Berkeley and afterward earned a law degree at UCLA. He has focused on issues related to environmental quality, education, health and human services for children and families, and consumer protection.

**Dr. Ron Chapman** is a board certified family physician who has dedicated his career to public health and medicine caring for the uninsured and underinsured in California. Prior to becoming the Director of the California Department of Public Health he was the Chief Medical Officer of Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC), a managed care Medi-Cal plan in Yolo, Solano, Napa, and Sonoma counties. Dr. Chapman was also the public health officer and deputy director of public health in Solano County and worked at the California Department of Health Services as the founding Chief of the Medicine and Public Health Section.

Dr. Chapman has a medical degree from the University of Southern California, a Masters in public health from the University of Michigan, and Bachelor of Science from UC Irvine. He has completed fellowships in academic medicine at the UC San Francisco and graduated in the inaugural class of the California Health Care Foundation's Health Care Leadership Program. Before entering public health practice Dr. Chapman was on the faculty at the University of California, Davis School of Medicine. He is the American Medical Association 2008 Dr. Nathan Davis Award Winner for local government service. Dr. Chapman's primary interests are in the areas of care for the uninsured, leadership development, chronic disease management, the interface between public health and medicine, and quality improvement processes.

**Steve Boilard** is the executive director for the Center for California Studies, based here at Sacramento State. The Center seeks to strengthen California governance through civic engagement and fellowship programs at all levels, from high school through college and graduate studies. Steve joined the Center in September 2012. Prior to that, he spent 15 years at the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office, where he directed the office's analytical work related to higher education.

Steve holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and a Master's degree in government from Sacramento State.