



# SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE PERSONNEL CONFERENCE

**Tuesday August 18, 2026**

**7:45 AM – 2:00 PM**

**Livonia Middle/High School**

**2 Bulldog Blvd, Livonia, NY 14487**

**Keynote Speaker Dr. Myke Merrill**



**“CONFLICTelligence: Experience Conflict  
in an Intelligent Approach”**

**Chef Demonstration with Chef Marianne Dayton with Affinity Group Northeast**

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**BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROVIDED**

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# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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Registration deadline: July 28, 2026

Fee: **Eligible for BOCES aid**  
(Includes breakfast and lunch)

- \$155.00 per Upstate Institute Member District attendee
- \$189.00 per Non-Member District attendee



## Public School District Personnel:

- Your district will be billed after the conference. District can utilize a cross-contract.
- Complete the registration in Frontline (My Learning Plan).
  - [Register Here](#)

## Additional (Individuals, non-public schools, etc):

- Complete the registration in Frontline (My Learning Plan).
  - [Register Here](#)
- Choose “check”. An invoice will be sent after the conference.

Upstate Institute provides auxiliary aids and accessibility services.  
Contact: [upstateinstitute@wflboces.org](mailto:upstateinstitute@wflboces.org) , 315-332-7725

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## Cancellations

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A written cancellation request to [upstateinstitute@wflboces.org](mailto:upstateinstitute@wflboces.org) must be received by July 28<sup>th</sup> to avoid being billed. No-shows will be billed the full registration fee.  
Districts may substitute participants. Please email with new attendee information.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

**7:45-8:15 Sign-in, Breakfast & Networking**

**8:20-8:40 Welcome & Civil Rights Training**

**8:45-9:45 Keynote Speaker**

**9:45-10:00 Break**

**10:00-11:00 Chef Demo**

**11:00-11:45 Lunch**

**11:50-12:20 Breakout Session**

**12:30-1:00 Breakout Session**

**1:10-1:40 Breakout Session**

**1:45-2:00 Closing  
Basket Drawing (see ticket in your badge)  
Evaluation Collection**

### **Rights and Responsibilities in the School Nutrition Programs with Rebecca Schorer**

**“CONFLICTelligence: Experience Conflict in an Intelligent Approach with Dr. Myke Merrill** – One key reality in the world is “Friction.” Without friction, you would slide off your chair to the floor, slip along the floor helplessly until you ended up at the lowest possible spot... You actually NEED friction constantly. But in relationships at work or home, friction can cause problems, especially conflict between staff.

### **Chef Demonstration with Chef Marianne Dayton with Affinity Group Northeast**

*Enjoy pulled pork & BBQ chicken  
from Lake Bistro!*

*Sides include mac & cheese,  
baked beans, salt potatoes,  
cornbread, salad and dessert.*

**CONFLICTelligence with Dr. Myke Merrill** – Bring real situations in mind that you want to deal with, based on what you heard in the main session.

**Personality Test with Marianne Dayton** – Have some fun in this session identifying your personality traits along with your coworkers.

**Serving Success: Building Strong Teams in School Nutrition with Rebecca Schorer** – Develop your confidence in workplace communication through participation in small groups and role playing. You will use problem solving skills and effective communication tips to address common school food service scenarios and reach positive outcomes. Take away tangible guidance on modes of communication that will allow you to approach discussions with confidence and have productive outcomes, working collaboratively with others.



to the following for your donations!!!

**Affinity Group Northeast**  
**Alexander Central School**  
**American Fruit & Vegetable Company**  
**General Mills**  
**GLOW**  
**Latina Foods**  
**Livonia CSD**  
**Mars Snacking**  
**Regional Distributors**  
**Regional Food Service**  
**Singer Equipment**  
**Sysco Syracuse**  
**Upstate- Niagara Cooperative Wright**  
**Beverages**  
**Zee Zees**

## **QUESTIONS?**

Email: [upstateinstitute@wflboces.org](mailto:upstateinstitute@wflboces.org)

Phone: 315-332-7725

## Committee Members



**Debbie Naples-**  
Genesee Valley BOCES  
Regional Food Service

**Deena Kingston-**  
Genesee Valley BOCES  
Regional Food Service /  
Naples

**Jim Tyx-** Regional Food  
Service Alexander /  
Pembroke

**Rebecca Schorer-**  
Livonia

**Cassie Gratton-**  
Upstate Institute  
Conference Coordinator

# **EMPOWER YOURSELF**