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Letter from the President

Dear Friends of Independent and Private Education,

As we come to the end of the school year, we thank our 157 member schools for being an integral part of our statewide network. We are honored to support, affirm, connect and convene a broad and diverse membership of private schools across Minnesota.

Membership renewal begins July 1, 2019. All current member schools will receive their renewal statements based on enrollment figures from the 2018-19 year, as reported to MDE via the Fall Report. During the last two years, our member retention has increased to more than 94% - and we strive to repeat this level of retention.

If you are not currently a member, this is a great time to join! New member schools can join MISF for a reduced rate for 2019-20, contingent on remaining a member for a second year. Membership provides benefits including professional development opportunities, STEM grant eligibility, reduced pricing for STEM Education Conference and ability to attend the School Leadership Conference. To learn how we can help you and your school community, please contact me for more information. Hear from member school leaders about MISF supports their school community.

Join us for some exceptional professional development offerings in the coming months - including the Development Lunch & Learn Seminar, STEM Education Conference and the School Leadership Conference. Check out the links below and plan to join your colleagues in sharing ideas and learnings to enhance your programs.

We wish you a restful summer and look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Tim Benz
President

Follow me on Twitter @misfprez

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Let your students know! They could win $5,000 towards higher education!

Visit ThriventStudentResources.com/sweepstakes and enter for a chance to be one of nine lucky winners of $5,000 to help pay your college expenses. One winner will be drawn each month.

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STEM SCOOP

2019 STEM Education Conference

(Earn 6 CEUs by attending the conference)

Thursday, August 8th, 2019
8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.
Benilde-St. Margaret's School
St. Louis Park

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!

Open to all nonpublic school educators and leaders
(See member and nonmember rates below)

2019 CONFERENCE FEATURES

• Presenters you know and love as well as some interesting new ones
Presenters you know and love as well as some interesting new ones

More breakout sessions by teachers from MISF member schools, including many presentations about STEM grant projects and a follow up to last year's Makerspace Mashup

A selection of traditional one-hour breakout sessions and longer (135 minute) intensives

Early-bird discounts for registration through June 16, 2019

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Click here to view descriptions of breakout sessions including recommended grade ranges. You will choose your breakout sessions upon registering. Register early to ensure that you are able to attend the breakout sessions of your choice.

Space is limited for the first 25 people for each session.

FEATURED BREAKOUT SESSION: MISF STEM GRANTS

Have you considered submitting a STEM Grant but are unsure where to start? Bring your questions about the MISF STEM Grant Program and your ideas for STEM Grant projects to discuss with MISF’s STEM program manager and the people who review Grant applications. MISF’s STEM Advisory Committee includes engineers, scientists and educators from the community who are eager to talk with you about developing a strong project and writing a winning proposal. (Grades K - 12)

SPONSOR EXHIBITORS

Sponsor exhibitors will be available to showcase the products and services offered to the STEM education community.

2019 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Gillian Roehrig
Institute on the Environment Fellow Professor, STEM Education
University of Minnesota

Dr. Roehrig is a professor of STEM Education at the University of Minnesota. Her research explores issues of professional development for K-12 science teachers, with a focus on beginning teachers and implementation of integrated STEM learning environments. She has received over $30 million in federal and state grants and published over 80 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters. She is a former board member of the National Association of Research in Science Teaching and past president of the Association for Science Teacher Education.

REGISTRATION & FEES

- MISF Member schools:
  - $55 - Early Bird Registration (Thru June 16, 2019)
  - $65 - Registration (After June 16th, 2019)
- Non-Members schools: $165
- Title Funds may be available to cover registration fees. Check with your local school district for more details.
- The conference is for grade K-12 educators and leaders from any Minnesota private or independent school. Your school does not need to be a member of MISF to attend.
- Registration fee includes breakfast, lunch, afternoon refreshments, and free parking.
- Registration fees are nonrefundable; however, registrations are transferable.
- Last day to register is Friday, August 2, 2019

If you have any registration questions please contact Michele Skare at 651-297-6716.

Register Now!

STEM Program Sponsors

SCHOTT FOUNDATION
Rivers Institutes: St. Croix, June 24-26; Mississippi, July 22-24

Join us this summer as Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE) presents its acclaimed Rivers Institute, a FREE, three-day, field-based professional development opportunity for educators. The Rivers Institutes are designed to increase teachers' science content knowledge and investigation skills and help area educators translate their professional experiences into meaningful, engaging classroom investigations.

For more information: https://www.hamline.edu/cgee/riversinstitute/

*ZOOMS Design Challenge: Engineering for Animals

The Minnesota Zoo ZOOMS Design Challenge offers students in grades 3-12 a chance to use the engineering design process to develop a solution to a 'real' problem faced by zookeepers and staff at the Minnesota Zoo. From designing an animal enrichment to renovating a zoo exhibit, the problem will challenge students to use STEM to solve the problem and present a solution. Teachers receive resources and support from the zoo to ensure a meaningful experience for all. Selected students will be invited to showcase their solutions at the ZOOMS Design Exhibition in March 2020 at the Minnesota Zoo for a chance to win a backstage pass experience with our animals! FREE for all teachers and students to participate!

http://mnzoo.org/education/schools-teachers/stem-programs/

Implementing Integrated STEM in the Classroom, Minneapolis

The NSF funded grant, Design and Development of a K-12 STEM Observation Protocol, includes a professional development program engaging teachers in learning how to implement integrated STEM in their classrooms. In a 5-day summer institute, teachers learn models and strategies for STEM integration through participation in model STEM activities, and are given opportunities to develop their own STEM units. In the 2019/2020 academic year, each participant will teach two integrated STEM units. These lessons will be observed and videotaped. Teachers will have the opportunity to reflect on their STEM teaching through classroom coaching sessions using their classroom video facilitated through a STEM observation protocol tool. The benefits include a stipend and a budget for classroom materials. The summer institutes are ☐ Elementary teachers: June 24 - 28 ☐ Secondary teachers: July 29 - August 2

To register, contact Gillian Roehrig at the University of Minnesota, roehr013@umn.edu

Other Resources

• MDE Monthly Science Update
• For a list of STEM Resources visit our website

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Middle Child Syndrome: Keys for Mid-level Giving Programs

Thursday, June 20
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

While the mid-level is defined differently for every organization, it represents the donors who give more than the direct mail annual fund donors and less than the major gift donors. This group is literally in the middle of your overall donor file, yet they are capable of large gifts and increased engagement.

Presented by Hayley Mueller, Director of Major and Planned Giving at Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

For more information and to register, visit our website.

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Behavioral Health and Wellness Grant

The Minnesota Departments of Human Services and Management and Budget wants to partner with school districts or collaboratives of schools to offer a social emotional learning-based curriculum for middle schoolers to promote positive mental health and prevent substance use. Programming would start in fall 2020. The state will cover the costs to implement the curriculum for four years (from school year 2020-21 to 2023-24), including staff training and reimbursement of teacher or substitute training time, curriculum materials, and technical assistance.

Learn more and apply at: https://mn.gov/mmb/behavioral-wellness/

Only a limited number of schools can be supported, so all are encouraged to apply as early as July 15, 2019. As soon as an application is received, state staff will schedule a site visit. The application is expected to officially remain open until November 15, but the state may close the application process earlier depending on the number of applicants.

The curriculum, called Life Skills Training (LST), is offered to middle school students over three consecutive years (6th-8th or 7th-9th grade). It works by helping to develop students' social and self-management skills. The curriculum is flexible and can be taught in a range of different existing courses, including health, physical education, home room, foundational courses, etc. LST is also aligned with CASEL's five social emotional learning competencies (SEL) and may be beneficial for schools looking to implement evidence-based SEL models.

If you have questions or want to learn more, please email Lindsey Thompson at Lindsey.Thompson@state.mn.us.

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Giving Insights Forum: The Impact of Catholic Education

Hosted by the Catholic Community Foundation

TUE. JUN. 25. | 6:00-8:30 PM
Cretin-Derham Hall, Saint Paul

We understand the impact institutions like parks, libraries, and grocery stores have in strengthening our communities. But, research shows that another key indicator of a healthy community is the presence of a Catholic school. Why are Catholic schools essential for a strong Church and community? A moderated panel of local and national experts will discuss this critical question.

This event is free and open to the public. Register online at: ccf-mn.org/forums/

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Polar explorer Ann Bancroft to keynote annual conference at St. Scholastica
The 9th annual 21st Century Teaching and Learning Conference will be held Tuesday, June 18. Ann Bancroft, polar explorer, educator and lecturer, will provide the keynote address: "Dare to Dream: The Power of Teaching." Her address will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Mitchell Auditorium on campus.

Bancroft is one of the world's pre-eminent polar explorers and an internationally recognized leader dedicated to sharing stories from her expeditions to inspire youth and people around the world to follow their dreams and create change.

She is the first known woman to have crossed the ice to both the North and South Poles, led the first American women's crossing of Greenland east to west, and became the first woman to ski across the continent of Antarctica with Norwegian explorer Liv Arnesen.

Her expeditions have been featured by media outlets around the country and the world, including the BBC, CNN, National Public Radio, Time, People, USA Today, National Geographic, Outside and Sports Illustrated for Kids. Bancroft is currently serving on the Wings World Quest and Ann Bancroft Foundation board of directors, is a judge at the Nuclear Free Future Awards annually and is a spokesperson for Wilderness Inquiry.

The Teaching and Learning Conference will offer a day filled with opportunities for networking and making connections with leaders in the field of education, along with breakout sessions designed to meet MED relicensure strands. The day's activities are relevant for anyone interested in education, from K-12 teachers to higher education faculty, college students or other learning practitioners. Presentations will include hands-on workshops and research-based best practices in teaching, learning and leading.

The registration fee is $99. For more go to: css.edu/teachandlearn

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Dates to Remember:

- June 20, 2019: Development Lunch & Learn Seminar
- July 1, 2019 Membership renewal invoices for 2019-20 school year sent
- August 8, 2019: STEM Education Conference
- September 23-25, 2019: School Leadership Conference

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Join us!

Not an MISF member school? Join us today!

MISF connects and strengthens Minnesota's independent schools through exceptional training, resources, and advocacy so they can be student-centered and mission-driven.

You can be independent, but not alone! We invite you to learn more about membership in our cohort of over 150 schools throughout the state. If you have questions, please contact Tim Benz at 651-297-6716 or tbenz@misf.org

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Please note: If you unsubscribe from this email, you will be removed from all email communication from MISF, including STEM opportunities, conference and seminar information, and advocacy updates. You may instead click here to modify your email preferences. Thank you.