



MARE Focus

DECEMBER 23, 2019

FROM THE DESK OF MR. KEVIN SANDLIN, MARE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ENDORSEMENTS

American Fidelity Assurance Co.

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- LEGAL HOTLINE: ED COUNSEL, GUIN MUNDORF, MICKES O'TOOLE, TUETH KEENEY
- EDPLUS
- AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE
- MISSOURI ADMIN. JOB POSTING

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from MARE - The MARE Executive Board, Dr. Ray Patrick, Dr. Jerry Cochran and I would like to wish all of you a very **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!** We consider ourselves blessed to represent both our member school districts and our Associate Members. 2019 has been a great year for our organization and we look forward to 2020 being even better. Thank you for your continued support of MARE and the work that we do on behalf of rural schools across our great state. Enjoy some time relaxing, reminiscing and recharging with family and friends!

MARE Administrative Search Services - MARE has been retained to conduct the following Superintendent Searches:

Superintendent Search - Rich Hill R-IV - Dr. Jerry Cochran is the Search Consultant. He can be reached by phone at (660) 668-3787 or by email at cochranj115@gmail.com. Information is attached on the MARE Focus Cover Page and posted on the MARE website at www.moare.com. **Deadline to apply is Friday, January 31st!**

Superintendent Search - Mexico 59 - Dr. Michael Jinks is the Search Consultant. He can be reached by phone at (660) 441-7473 or by email at 19mj46@charter.net. Information is attached on the MARE Focus Cover Page and posted on the MARE website at www.moare.com. **Deadline to apply is Friday, January 31st!**

***Closed Searches - Wellsville Middletown R-I, Strasburg C-3, Canton R-V (HS Principal), Fulton 58 and Adair Co. R-I**

Other Vacancies Posted on the MARE website:

Superintendent of Schools - Bradleyville R-I - For more information contact, Scott Ewing, Superintendent, at (417) 796-2288 or Rhonda Cook at cook@bradleyviller1.com.

Superintendent of Schools - Prairie Home R-V - For more information contact, Michelle Rex, Superintendent, at (660) 841-5296 or by email at rexm@prairiehome.k12.mo.us.

Assistant Middle School Principal & Process Coordinator/Psychological Examiner - Gasconade Co. R-II - For more information on these openings, please access the district website at www.dutchmen.us.

Superintendent of Schools - Stanton Community Schools (Stanton, Nebraska) - For more information on this opportunity, please contact Jack Moles, Executive Director, at superintendentsearch@nrca.net or access the website at www.nrca.net.

MARE Board Training Program Update - The new Board Refresher Training video links were emailed to all MARE member school district Superintendents last week. If you did not receive the email, please contact me. We are in the process of developing our schedule of Board Training events for 2020. This schedule will be posted not later than March 1, 2020!

****Additional Training Opportunity**

January 24th - MARE Board Training - Holiday Inn in Poplar Bluff (12:00-6:00 p.m.)

January 25th - MARE Board Training - Holiday Inn in Poplar Bluff (8:00-4:30 p.m.)

Contact Kevin Sandlin at ksandlin@moare.com for registration information!

Scholarship Program Information - The Missouri Association of Rural Education sponsors two scholarship programs. The first program is open to any Missouri college junior or senior who is majoring in education. Application materials will be sent to all Missouri colleges that have an education program in late November. The second program is open to seniors of MARE member school districts. Eligible students must be planning to pursue a degree in education. Information regarding this program will be sent out to all High School Counselors in late November. **Please access the information for each scholarship linked on the notice for this document!**

Deadline to apply for the HS Senior Scholarships is March 6, 2020!

Deadline to apply for the College Junior/Senior Scholarships is March 31, 2020!

MARE Welcomes Satchel Pulse as New Associate Member

MARE is pleased to welcome Satchel Pulse as our newest Associate Member. For more information on this company, please read below:

Planning for next year? Make better decisions through effective feedback

Effective school improvement planning relies on reflecting where we are right now and using that information to plan accordingly next year.

Snapshot surveys fail to provide the insights you need when you are zooming out and looking at the bigger picture for your school district.

Our feedback software provides a real time view of culture and climate across your schools.

This enables school and district leaders to make better decisions when planning school improvement by linking feedback directly to MTSS/RTI initiatives.

Pulse captures ongoing feedback from staff, students and parents and delivers insights that shows how they're feeling in key areas. These insights, and the trends over time, highlight exactly where issues lie and enable informed and effective initiatives.

Pulse helps district and school leaders:

- Improve staff engagement
- Improve staff retention
- Increase family engagement
- Improve student engagement
- Improve student wellbeing and family engagement

Find out how Satchel Pulse can help in your district: <https://info.teamsatchel.com/improving-your-district-culture>

MARE members receive discounted rates on Satchel Pulse purchases.

MARE/Learning Blade STEM Webinar Series Opportunities

Increase your STEM and Computer Science (CS) Potential in 2020 with Learning Blade

The Missouri Association of Rural Education (MARE) and Learning Blade are joining forces to do a STEM and CS webinar series in January covering Learning Blade's Interactive Online STEM Toolbox, a free resource to all MO schools through DESE.

[Register here - https://forms.gle/nZsk6crcSUJjubWw6](https://forms.gle/nZsk6crcSUJjubWw6)

Webinar Dates

January 6th, 4 to 4:45 pm CT

January 7th, 3 to 3:45 pm CT

January 8th, 2 to 2:45 pm CT

Learning Blade is a supplemental STEM and Computer Science toolbox of interactive online lessons, ready-to-use lesson plans and classroom activities proven to increase CS and STEM career awareness.

Sincerely,

Joshua Sneideman
Vice President, Learning Blade
Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator
(423) 681-9733
Learning Blade

MARE Board Elections - MARE will be electing Regional Executive Board Members in Regions B, D, F, H and J this year. Additionally, one member from a MARE member school district's Board of Education and a MO K-8 Representative will be appointed or selected. Board members will be announced at the May 4th Executive Board Meeting. Terms for newly elected or appointed members will begin on July 1, 2020.

Region B: Counties of – Gasconade, Franklin, Crawford, Washington, Iron, Reynolds, St. Francis, Ste. Genevieve, Jefferson, Perry and St. Louis.

Region D: Counties of – Laclede, Camden, Miller, Cole, Osage, Maries, Phelps, Pulaski and Dent.

Region F: Counties of – Jackson, Cass, Lafayette, Johnson, Henry, Saline, Pettis, Cooper, Moniteau and Morgan.

Region H: Counties of – Scotland, Knox, Shelby, Monroe, Audrain, Callaway, Clark, Lewis, Marion, Ralls, Pike, Montgomery, Lincoln, Warren and St. Charles.

Region J: Counties of – Atchinson, Holt, Nodaway, Andrew, Buchanan, Platte, Clay, Worth, DeKalb, Clinton, Ray, Caldwell, Daviess, Gentry and Harrison.

For more information on this opportunity, please check out the article on the MARE website at www.moare.com!

News from NREA - The Rural

Texas Rural Education Association and NREA member: Hawkins ISD spotlighted on The Today Show: Great job! How 4 Texas girls rescued a bee colony and built a business:

Meet Mackenzie Rutherford, Rachel Parish, Brook Goddard and Jessica Henneous, four students at Hawkins High School in Texas who helped solve a bee problem at a local water bottling plant and launched a business in the process. NBC's Kerry Sanders has the story.

<https://www.today.com/video/how-4-texas-girls-rescued-a-bee-colony-and-built-a-business-74625093875>

College Fairs Might Seem Ho-Hum. Until You Meet the Rural Students at This One.

<https://www.chronicle.com/interactives/20191205-CollegeFair?cid=db&source=ams&sourceId=486674>

Rural Communities Offer Unique Opportunities For Place-Based Learning Posted on December 3, 2019 by Annie Freeland

<https://tnscore.org/rural-communities-offer-unique-opportunities-for-place-based-learning/>

Improving Education In Rural Tennessee Schools

By Alan Richards and Allen Pratt

<https://tnscore.org/improving-education-in-rural-tennessee-schools/>

ANNOUNCING OUR 2019-2020 GRANTS IN PLACE FELLOW RECIPIENTS!

Rural, USA DECEMBER 04, 2019

<http://ruralschoolscollaborative.org/stories/announcing-our-2019-2020-grants-in-place-fellow-recipients>

Fiscal Year 2020: SRSA Application Update

- Based on feedback from superintendents and other stakeholders from small, rural school districts, the U.S. Department of Education simplified the application process for fiscal year 2020 Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) awards.
- The simplified process relies on a single platform to gather applicant information. Applicants previously had to navigate three sites to fill out an application.
- The previous process took approximately three hours for applicants to complete. The new application process is estimated to take **no more than 30 minutes to complete**.
- Eligible school districts will access the application through a unique link that will be sent via email invitation to school district contacts provided by state educational agencies.
- The approximately 2,500 school districts that are eligible for the SRSA and Rural Low-Income School (RLIS) program will also receive enhanced guidance on how to choose between SRSA and RLIS, including award estimates for both RLIS and SRSA in the email invitation.
- Each applicant will receive a confirmation email that includes a summary of responses for their school district to keep for their records and directions for next steps.

The number of Americans training to become teachers has dropped by a third since 2010, and it's creating a critical educator shortage that will affect every state. [Allana Akhtar](#)

<https://www.businessinsider.com/one-third-fewer-people-are-training-to-become-teachers?fbclid=IwAR0dUFje85vjBa1kmo6hgTCz68i4UamsxslyYKAvp0WbKTwiGKPQzqHFyws>

Member Forum on the Youth Vaping Epidemic

An Eyewitness Perspective from Students & Principals <https://www.facebook.com/principals/>

Tuesday, December 10th * 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Missouri Combatting the Opioid Epidemic in Schools

The Missouri Association of Rural Education, along with numerous other organizations, is participating on a Workforce Task Group, to review issues and share information centering around the opioid epidemic that is facing our nation, state, local communities and even many of our school districts.

[Opioid Presentation - Dr. Melissa Maras, MARE/MO K-8 Conference](#)

[Missouri's Opioid Crisis - What's Being Done and How You Can Help!](#)

Here are some additional links to awesome resources that you can use in your schools and share with your community.

COPE: Opioid and Prescription Drug Prevention Education

(<https://t.e2ma.net/message/9bl6lb/xawcdu>)

•COPE: Heroin & Opioid Awareness and Prevention Toolkit

(<https://t.e2ma.net/message/hma7lb/xawcdu>)

- COPE: Parents 360Rx (<https://t.e2ma.net/message/xeb71b/xawcdu>)
- COPE: Above the Influence (<https://t.e2ma.net/message/d7b71b/xawcdu>)

Save the Date

MUSIC - Annual Membership Meeting - The MUSIC Annual Membership meeting will be held on Thursday, January 30th and Friday, January 31st at The Lodge of Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, Missouri. Please access their website at www.musicprogram.org.

10th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament - Slated for Monday, July 20th at Osage National Golf Course in Lake Ozark, Missouri. Information and forms will be posted and mailed out in late March!

2020 MARE/MO K-8 Conference - Scheduled on October 21-23, 2020 at the Lodge of Four Seasons. Please make plans now to attend this growing event! Information and forms will be made available in April!

Quote of the Week

“Excellence is an art won by training and habituation. We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but we rather have those because we have acted rightly. We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.” Aristotle

MARE Organization Staff

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