



# MARE Focus

DECEMBER 7, 2020

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

## ENDORSEMENTS

- American Fidelity Assurance Co.
- Claim Care, Inc.
- CTS Group
- Forrest T. Jones & Co.
- IMS Technology
- L.J. Hart & Company
- MASA MTS
- MEUHP
- Mike Keith Insurance
- M.U.S.I.C.
- MO. Consultants for Ed.
- Pro Energy Solutions, LLC
- SOCS

## MARE PARTNERSHIPS

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

## MARE Superintendent Searches

– MARE has been retained to conduct the following Superintendent Searches:

**Superintendent Search - Missouri City #56** - Dr. Mike Jinks is the Search Consultant. Mike can be reached by phone at (660) 441-7473 or by email at [19mj46@charter.net](mailto:19mj46@charter.net).

**Application deadline is Friday, December 18, 2020!**

**Superintendent Search - Schuyler Co. R-I** - Dr. Paul Ricker is the Search Consultant. Paul can be reached by phone at (573) 365-4703 or by email at [paulricker1@charter.net](mailto:paulricker1@charter.net).

**Application deadline is Thursday, December 31, 2020!**

## Other Vacancies

**Superintendent of Schools - Green Forest R-II** - Access the application at [www.gfr2.k12.mo.us](http://www.gfr2.k12.mo.us) or contact [tatom@gfr2.k12.mo.us](mailto:tatom@gfr2.k12.mo.us).

Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public School (Syracuse, NE) - For more information access [www.nrcsa.net](http://www.nrcsa.net) or [superintendentsearch@nrcsa.net](mailto:superintendentsearch@nrcsa.net).

## MARE & LearnSafe Teaming Up to Offer Organizational Pricing

MARE and SlateXP (LearnSafe) have worked together to offer organizational pricing for the amazing software product that we were initially hoping to offer to MARE member school districts through our grant initiative. Since our grant project was not funded this cycle by the DOJ, we have collaborated to offer significantly discounted pricing to our members. LearnSafe provides student safety and peace of mind knowing that CIPA compliant monitoring is occurring on school-owned computers and that you have clear information to address reporting concerning behavior. Access the links below for more details:



[About LearnSafe](#)



[MARE Pricing](#)



[More Details](#)

## Illinois Farmer Today Article

– Recently, I along with colleagues from neighboring Midwest states were contacted by reporter, Phyllis Coulter, to provide our thoughts on how the COVID 19 pandemic was impacting rural education in our respective states. A link to this article is provided below should you have interest in what was shared by those involved:

[https://www.agupdate.com/illinoisfarmertoday/news/state-and-regional/pandemic-intensifies-challenges-for-rural-students-and-teachers/article\\_98b090b4-291f-11eb-b7f6-2395c886fbf3.html](https://www.agupdate.com/illinoisfarmertoday/news/state-and-regional/pandemic-intensifies-challenges-for-rural-students-and-teachers/article_98b090b4-291f-11eb-b7f6-2395c886fbf3.html)

## NREA News

– For all of the latest news from our national affiliate, please click on these links: [NREA Weekly News - December 4, 2020](#)

## **MARE Welcomes Defined Learning as New Associate Member**



[Defined Learning](#) is a K-12 project-based learning (PBL) solution that provides teachers with all of the essential design elements they need to implement high-quality project-based learning; an online library of standards-aligned performance tasks, real-world videos, research resources and more. Each engaging performance task is based on a real-world situation in a STEM career to make learning relevant and to empower students to build the skills they need to succeed in college, careers, and life.

Learn More:

- [What We Offer](#)
- [How it Works](#)
- [Sample Free Project-Based Lessons for Remote Learning](#)

Sample Performance Tasks aligned to MO State Standards:

- [Kindergarten Task: Shapes Around the Neighborhood](#)
- [5<sup>th</sup> Grade Task: Aquarium Designer](#)
- [8th Grade Task: App Developer: Athletics And Body Systems](#)
- [High School Task: Biomedical Engineer: Prosthetic Limbs](#)

Our career exploration solution, [Defined Careers](#), provides students in grades 5-14 with opportunities to explore and experience careers. Defined Careers' personalized assessment guides students towards relevant hands-on projects across recommended career pathways. Our engaging pathways projects empower students to discover their interests, explore their potential, and create a pathway to a promising future.

Defined Learning also offers a range of professional learning opportunities from in-person training to online courses and virtual coaching. These professional learning experiences support educators as they deepen their understanding of PBL to meet the needs of all learners through instructional support. Districts and schools can work with our educational leadership team to create a customized, professional learning plan that meets their goals and needs.

- [On-Demand, Virtual, and In-Person Professional Learning Opportunities](#)

For more information, please contact Mary Clifford at [Mary\\_Clifford@DefinedLearning.com](mailto:Mary_Clifford@DefinedLearning.com)

### **eMINTS Grant Opportunity**

The eMINTS National Center at the University of Missouri is excited to share information regarding the U.S. Department of Education's Education Innovation and Research (EIR) grant to support the development of Prosocial and Active Learning (PAL) Classrooms in Missouri. We are currently recruiting schools to participate in the program, professional development, and research study included in the grant.

In this study, 5th grade math and science teachers in thirty-six schools will participate in professional development to implement prosocial and problem-based learning strategies in their classrooms. The 5th grade teachers and students will each receive a Chromebook. Teachers will participate in 65 hours of professional development. Teachers will also receive a minimum of 6 in-class coaching sessions to support the transfer of new strategies into practice.

The professional learning sessions are based on the eMINTS Instructional Model and will focus on strategies to support prosocial behaviors and research-based instructional strategies that enhance problem-based learning experiences in a technology-rich learning environment. In addition, the Efficacy Phase will include the following data collection activities by researchers at the University of Missouri and American Institutes of Research:

- \* Feedback collected through interviews with teachers and administrators about professional development and program implementation
- \* Classroom observations
- \* Teacher interviews
- \* Teacher, administrator and student surveys

The efficacy phase of the project is divided into 2 cohorts. This random control study comprises 36 schools that will be randomized into 2 cohorts: treatment and control groups. Once recruitment is complete the districts will be randomized and placed into treatment and control groups. Treatment schools will begin participating 2021 - 2022. Control schools will participate in 2022 - 2023. Participation in the project and data submission is strictly voluntary. We strongly encourage the involvement of all stakeholders including superintendents, principals,

teachers, technology coordinators, and other stakeholders to review the PAL informational website (<https://sites.google.com/emints.org/eirpalclassrooms/home> [1]) or the project website ([pal.emints.org](http://pal.emints.org) [2]) and ask questions regarding the program so that you may make an informed decision before submitting an agreement to participate.

We will be hosting an informational webinar on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. and Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. These webinars will provide additional details regarding the project as well as a question and answer period. It is only necessary to attend one webinar. The webinars will be recorded and made available to anyone unable to attend either of the live sessions. To receive a link and password to the webinars, please complete this form [3] by November 16, 2020.

Thank you again for your interest and support of the Prosocial and Active Learning (PAL) Classroom project. We look forward to hearing from you!

To sign-up, complete the School Eligibility Form [4].

Investigators' Contact Information:

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**Legal Articles** - Please check out our website for legal articles shared by our partners at EdCounsel, Mickes O'Toole, Guin Mundorf and Tueth Keeney!

## **Learning Blade's free "Intro to Computer Science Lessons"**

Dear MO CS Educators,

Computer Science Education Week: Have students complete Learning Blade's Intro to Computer Science Unit

Computer Science Education Week is December 7-13. What will your students be doing?

Show students the careers and technologies that use coding skills in Learning Blade's "Intro to Computer Science." Including these in your Computer Science Education Week helps a broader range of students to envision themselves in these careers in the future! The entire series of lessons takes only 1-2 hours to complete. Give your students insight into what the possibilities are in the CS workforce. Your school has access to this resource. Learning Blade is targeted at grades 5-9! If you forgot your school's login to Learning Blade, please email [info@learningblade.com](mailto:info@learningblade.com) and provide them the following information:

1. Your name, first then last
2. Your school's full name including whether it is elementary, middle or high school
3. Indicate your school is in Missouri

Information will be sent to you providing instructions for using Learning Blade! Thank you!

**MARE Scholarship Information** – MARE awarded a total of 43 scholarships last year including 15 - \$1,000.00 scholarships to college juniors/seniors and 28 - \$500.00 scholarships to graduating seniors from MARE member school districts. Proceeds from the annual golf tournament are our primary source of funding for scholarships. Due to the generous support of many of our Associate Members and other donors, we hope to award even more scholarships in 2021. Information has been sent out to the Missouri School Counselors Association (HS Senior Program) and to all Missouri colleges and universities that have a teacher education program. Links to both programs are found below:

[2020-2021 MARE/EdCounsel HS Senior Scholarship Program](#)

[2020-2021 MARE College Scholarship Program](#)

**MARE Board Training Program Update** - Please note the scheduled training opportunities below:

**\*\* Since we had to cancel the Conference Board Training event and the Unionville Training event, we are looking to add a few additional trainings around the state before mid-February. Stay tuned!**

To register, please complete the form found on our website and fax to (660) 747-8160, scan and email to [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com), or go online ([www.moare.com](http://www.moare.com)) and complete the electronic form found under Board Training.

**Dates and locations may change due to unforeseen circumstances!!!**

### **Quote of the Week**

*"Most people get excited about games, but I've got to be excited about practice, because that's my classroom."*

- Pat Summitt, Basketball

**11th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament** - The 11th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, July 19th at the beautiful Osage National Golf Course in Lake Ozark, Missouri. Last year's event raised over \$20,000.00 for scholarships for Missouri students seeking teaching certification with plans to return to Missouri public schools and teach. Information will be formally posted soon and sent out. We will accept the first 36 teams that enter to play!

### **MARE Organization Staff**

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