



MARCH 12, 2025

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

# MARE Focus

## ENDORSEMENTS

American Fidelity Assurance Co.

Claim Care, Inc.

Forrest T. Jones & Co.

Hamlin Energy

IMS Technology

L.J. Hart & Company

MASA MTS

MEUHP

Mike Keith Insurance

MO. Consult. For Ed.

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## MARE PARTNERSHIPS

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- GIRLS STATE

MISSOURI  
ADMIN. JOB  
POSTING

**Legislative Session – Key Open Enrollment Items** – As all of you are aware, the battle for public education regarding Open Enrollment is raging in Jeff City again this year. HB 711 is available on the floor today and will likely receive a vote. I appreciate all of the efforts of everyone regarding this work. If it does pass the house, then our efforts and focus will shift to the Senate. At present, 237 schools impacting over 430,000 lives have made this commitment. I am still confident that if we continue to work together and engage our teachers, BOE members, patrons and business leaders, we can win this fight again and keep the legislation from crossing the finish line and becoming law in Missouri. More to follow! As Jim Valvano once said, “Don’t ever give up!”

**Superintendent Search Program** – MARE has been retained to assist with:

**Fair Play R-II Superintendent Search** – Dr. Maggie Anderson is the consultant. She can be reached at (816) 898-0005 or [mg2.anderson@gmail.com](mailto:mg2.anderson@gmail.com). **Closes 03/21/2025!**

**Spring Bluff R-XV Superintendent Search** – Mr. Darryl Pannier is the consultant. He can be reached at (573) 803-9008 or [darrylpannier@yahoo.com](mailto:darrylpannier@yahoo.com). **Closes on 3/14/2025!**

**Iberia R-V Superintendent Search** – Mrs. Mary Beth Scherer is the consultant. She can be reached at (660) 281-7678 or [mbscherer@ucmo.edu](mailto:mbscherer@ucmo.edu). **Closes on 4/4/2025!**

**Closed Searches – Maysville R-I, Northeast Nodaway Co. R-V, Franklin Co. R-II, Osage Co. R-III, Putnam Co. R-I, Lakeland R-III, Green Ridge R-VIII, Sullivan, Orrick R-XI, Jamestown C-1, Bucklin R-II, Lonedell R-XIV & Eminence R-I.**

**Check out the MARE website at [www.moare.com](http://www.moare.com) for announcements and applications!**

**Save the Date** – The 2025 MARE/MO K-8 Conference will be held on October 22-24, 2025 at the Lodge of Four Seasons. Plans are underway to make this our biggest and best ever. Please block this on your calendar now and make plans to join us! I promise you will have a great time and learn a lot! More information will be posted on the website and appear in an upcoming MARE Focus. Our goal this year is 325 in attendance!

## Missouri Social Studies Curriculum News – Rhett Oldham

Here is the latest [Engage Missouri: Social Studies Leaders Newsletter 1.13](#) March is Women's History Month so I have included a lot of resources in this newsletter pertaining to women. Also, all the bellringer lessons from the Missouri Museum Initiative are in this newsletter. The teachers did a great job on those. I definitely want to continue this program next year and I will update you on the progress of that program soon.

Have a great week in the classroom and let me know if I can help in any way.

Best regards,

Dr. Rhett Oldham

2020 Gilder Lehrman Missouri History Teacher of the Year

Missouri Council for the Social Studies-President Emeritus

University of Illinois Transatlantic Educator Dialogue (TED) Moderator

@SGHistoryTeach

Website: <http://sghistoryteach.weebly.com/>

## Goblins Math Program – Discounted for MARE Members

Hey MARE supes! It was a pleasure meeting back in December. Good news — we're **extending our 20% discount** to MARE districts who partner with us by end of March. Book some time — I'll show you at least 3 powerful ways we can help.

Book time! ↘



Sawyer Altman, CEO

[sawyer@goblinsapp.com](mailto:sawyer@goblinsapp.com)



**Goblins** waiting to boost your district's math scores.



## **Drug Awareness Virtual Conference Event**



## **Elevate Conference Dates**

**Re:** ELevate your impact at the ELevate Conference - now at two locations!

Get ready to be inspired! EducationPlus is hosting the **ELevate Conference in both St. Louis and Kansas City this year!** ELevate St. Louis will be June 3 & 4 at Ft. Zumwalt West High School and ELevate Kansas City will be held on Thursday, June 5 at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center.

Experience dynamic keynote speakers, innovative breakout sessions and networking opportunities that will ignite new ideas and elevate your impact in the classroom. Learn best practices and gain new strategies for creating inclusive and effective learning environments. Learn more about St. Louis on the [ELevate St. Louis conference website](#) and Kansas City on it's [conference website](#).

This conference is for leaders, EL educators and content teachers who have EL students within their classroom. All can gain valuable learning experiences and practical strategies that can be applied to the classroom and their school communities. Attached are flyers with additional information for both conferences.

Don't miss this chance to collaborate, learn and grow with fellow educators. Reserve your spot today for [ELevate St. Louis](#) or [ELevate Kansas City](#).

Christine McDonald, o: 314.692.1233 | c: 314.443.6990

## **MARE Board Training Calendar for 2025**

### **MARE Board Training Dates – 2025**

#### **Southeast Missouri - Poplar Bluff, MO – Holiday Inn – (573) 712-9021**

- Friday, May 30, 2025 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, May 31, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

#### **Northeast Missouri - Kirksville, MO - Holiday Inn Express (660) 956-4682**

- Friday, June 13, 2025 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 14, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

#### **Southwest Missouri - Bolivar, MO - Comfort Inn - (417) 326-6169**

- Friday, June 20, 2025 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 21, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

#### **West Central Missouri - Warrensburg, MO – Quality Inn - (660) 747-3000**

- Friday, June 27, 2025 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 28, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

#### **Northwest Missouri - Maryville, MO - Holiday Inn Express (660) 562-9949**

- Friday, July 11, 2025 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, July 12, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

#### **Lake Ozark, MO – The Lodge of the Four Seasons (Conference)**

- Wednesday, October 22, 2025 (11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- Thursday, October 23, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

#### **Lake Ozark, MO - The Lodge of the Four Seasons**

- Friday, December 5, 2025 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, December 6, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

**\*\*\* Please share this information with any new Board member who has not completed the 18.5 hours of required training! MARE is an approved Board Training provider!**

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.

**Save the Date** – The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at Osage National Golf Course in Lake Ozark, Missouri. We will accept the first 36 paid teams for this growing event. Last year's event raised over \$35,900.00 for scholarships for students interested in teaching in rural Missouri schools.

**Plan now to join us!**



## Quote of the Week

*"Life is about making an impact, not making an income"*

**Anonymous**

**MARE Board Elections for 2025** – MARE will be electing/appointing Regional Executive Board Members in Regions, A, C, E, G and I this year. In addition, one member from a MARE member school district's BOE and a Higher Education Representative will be appointed. **All current Board members up for re-election/appointment have expressed interest in serving another two-year term through June 30, 2027!** (Due to the recent retirement decision of Dr. Brian Robinson, MARE will be in need of a Board Member to represent Region J, which includes the following counties - Atchison, Holt, Nodaway, Andrew, Buchanan, Platte, Clay, Worth, DeKalb, Clinton, Ray, Caldwell, Daviess, Gentry and Harrison. If you are serving as a Superintendent or Asst. Superintendent in a MARE member school district within one of these counties and you have interest in representing Region J, please reach out to me at [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com) or (660) 747-8050!)

## MOCAAT – What Can You Do for Me?



**The MOCAAT® Advantage:**  
Missouri's Trusted Financial Management Resource for School Districts.

Our experienced team, with broad expertise in Missouri school budgeting, finance, and investments, thoroughly manages over \$3 billion in assets for over 240 Missouri Participants, including school districts (as of September 30, 2024).

Since inception in 2020, MOCAAT has provided a new level of service and performance to Missouri communities.  
**Our philosophy – Partnership.**

Maximize the potential of your reserve funds, tax revenues, state revenues, and bond proceeds with our professional guidance.

For financial support tailored to your district's unique needs, contact us:

		
<b>John Jungmann</b> Vice-President Investment Services	<b>Jason Hoffman</b> Vice-President Investment Services	<b>Paul Ziegler</b> Coordinator, Sales & Relationship Manager
(417) 228-4148 <a href="mailto:jjungmann@pmanetwork.com">jjungmann@pmanetwork.com</a>	(573) 212-6258 <a href="mailto:jhoffman@pmanetwork.com">jhoffman@pmanetwork.com</a>	(417) 387-6005 <a href="mailto:pziegler@pmanetwork.com">pziegler@pmanetwork.com</a>

## MARE Scholarship Programs – Guidelines & Applications

The Missouri Association of Rural Education offers two scholarship programs for students interested in becoming teachers and returning to rural school districts to teach. The first program is the MARE Rural Missouri Scholarship Fund. This program is open to only junior and senior level students attending Missouri colleges or universities that offer degrees in education. Applicants must have completed 60 or more credit hours and have declared a major in education. Last year, MARE provided twenty-three (23) \$1,000.00 scholarships. We plan to present 20-25 \$1,000.00 scholarships this year alone! Information for this program is available below. This information was mailed to all Missouri colleges and universities that offer teacher education programs and certifications. **The deadline to apply for this scholarship is Friday, March 14, 2025.**

### [2024-2025 Guidelines & Application for College Scholarship Awards](#)

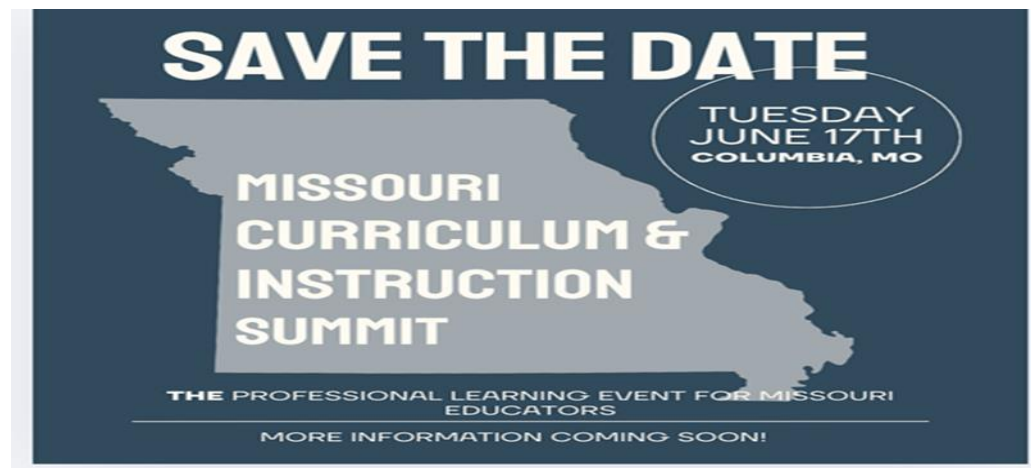
The second scholarship program offered by MARE is open to graduating high school seniors

of MARE member school districts. Applicants must have indicated plans to pursue a degree in education. Only senior students from MARE member school districts are eligible to apply. Last year, MARE, with support from EdCounsel, LLC provided thirty-eight (38) \$750.00 scholarships to graduating high school seniors from all over the state. **The deadline to apply for this scholarship is Friday, March 14, 2025.**

#### [2024-2025 Guidelines & Application for HS Senior Scholarship Awards](#)

If you have any questions regarding these Scholarship Programs, please contact Kevin Sandlin, Executive Director, at (660) 747-8050 or [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com). Since 2017, MARE has provided a total of \$262,000.00 in scholarships through these two programs.

### **STEPUp Missouri Curriculum & Instruction Summit**



I wanted to reach out because we believe members of MARE would greatly benefit from attending the **Missouri Curriculum & Instruction Summit**, happening on June 17, 2025 in Columbia, MO.

This event is designed to support Missouri's instructional leaders with innovative learning opportunities. Right now, **Early Bird registration is open**, and we'd love your help in spreading the word to rural educators who could take advantage of this opportunity.

You can find more information and register here: <https://sites.google.com/stepupconsultingservices.com/mocis/home>

Valorie Montgomery, Senior Director of Marketing & Operation

**NEW Associate Members** – MARE is pleased to welcome Carroll Seating Company, Daikin TMI, Ecco Ride Transportation, Goblins, Holland Construction Services, HR Advisors MO, LLC, IT Recycling Answers, Learning Blade, Missouri School Expertise, LLC, Southwest Center for Education Excellence, Stark Caverns, Team Builders Academy, LLC, Thrivent Financial, Twotrees Technologies, 4M Building Solutions, K12 Corral, and Kansas City Commercial Roofing as New Associate Members. For more information on these great members, please check out the MARE website and future MARE Focus feature articles.

## **Boys State & Girls State 2025**

— MARE will be sponsoring two young men and two young women to attend their respective State gatherings this year. We are proud to be a part of these amazing programs and opportunities for our students. More to follow in an upcoming MARE Focus!

### **MARE Organization Staff**

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