



# MARE Focus

MARCH 18, 2020

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

## ENDORSEMENTS

American Fidelity Assurance Co.

Benefits 360 LLC

Claim Care, Inc.

CTS Group

Forrest T. Jones & Co.

IMS

L.J. Hart & Company

MASA MTS

MEUHP

Mike Keith Insurance

M.U.S.I.C.

MO. Consultants for Ed.

Pro Solutions, LLC

SOCS

## MARE PARTNERSHIPS

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

**MARE Superintendent Searches** - One of the many services that MARE provides is a quality, yet affordable Superintendent Search Program. If you are retiring this year or making plans to move, we would welcome the opportunity to work with your district to find the next leader. Contact Kevin Sandlin, MARE Executive Director, at (660) 747-8050 or [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com) for more information.

## Other Vacancies Posted

**Scott County R-IV - Elementary Principal** - Contact Dr. Kevin Cogdill for more information on this opportunity - [kevin.cogdill@kellyhawks.org](mailto:kevin.cogdill@kellyhawks.org) or (573) 545-3541, extension 5.

**Gasconade Co. R-II - Process Coordinator** - Contact Dr. Chuck Garner for more information on this opportunity - [cgarner@dutchmen.us](mailto:cgarner@dutchmen.us) or (573) 437-2177.

**Mexico 59 Assistant Superintendent** - Contact Bethany Collins for more information on this opportunity - [bcollins@mexico.k12.mo.us](mailto:bcollins@mexico.k12.mo.us) or (573) 581-3773.

## MARE Welcomes SlateXP as New Associate Member

Greetings to you all! SlateXP is proud to be a new associate member of MARE and committed to becoming a valuable partner. Our expertise is in school computer monitoring for student safety and it's something we have been doing successfully for large and small school districts in several states. Most districts don't realize the Children's Internet Protection Act requires monitoring of student use of school computers nor that monitoring is different from blocking inappropriate websites. Blocking is a function of all content filters. Monitoring allows school leaders to seek and understand if computer users are behaving appropriately per your Acceptable Use Policy. Without the right technology monitoring is a difficult task. SlateXP, Inc. has designed [LearnSafe](#) to provide valuable student computer supervision services that content filters weren't meant to perform. Administrators want to know if student's are by-passing your filter to access inappropriate content, planning to harm themselves or others, using online applications inappropriately, using off-line applications inappropriately and bringing unacceptable files in on USB drives.

### About [LearnSafe](#):

[LearnSafe](#) is a screen monitoring solution trained to detect when students exhibit inappropriate or harmful behavior on school computers. Unlike a content filter, LearnSafe supervises and reports when inappropriate activity occurs from any online or offline application whether on-campus or off-campus. School leaders are furnished with easy, non-technical behavior reports to more accurately intercede and address critical behavioral issues in a timely manner. LearnSafe's reporting accuracy and detail gives you the ability to help vulnerable students and promote a climate that encourages student achievement.

## LearnSafe for MARE Member Districts Only:

1. **THIS IS BIG.** Well it is for us! Our pricing is traditionally based on the quantity of computers of an individual district; however MARE members that implement LearnSafe will be able to take advantage of pricing based on a MARE aggregate computer quantity. *Look for more information to come.*

2. **PILOT OPPORTUNITY** –Between now and the end of the school year, MARE members can pilot the full solution of LearnSafe at *no cost* to the district for 2 weeks.

- **It's Easy:** Launching the pilot only requires 1 hour from a network administrator to deploy on Windows, Mac and/or Chromebooks. Further, there is no interruption to the normal school day or computer itself as LearnSafe runs quietly in the background.

- **The Right Time:** There's no bad time for a LearnSafe pilot, but perhaps the decision your school district makes in preparation for **COVID-19** involves school computers going home. If so, LearnSafe can provide a CIPA compliant monitoring solution for district owned computers that helps you during this time. If that's not your scenario, LearnSafe was designed to work wherever ever a school computer is in use and complies with web-based testing rules.

Have your technology coordinator contact with any questions to get your Pilot activated.

### For more information:



Kevin Hendrix  
EVP & Co-founder  
SlateXP, Inc  
Office: [\(205\) 259-2689](tel:2052592689) | Mobile: [\(205\) 223-7370](tel:2052237370)  
Email: [khendrix@slatexp.com](mailto:khendrix@slatexp.com)

Visit: [www.LearnSafe.com](http://www.LearnSafe.com)

## Grant Writing Workshop Opportunity

St. Louis Community College - Florissant Valley Campus and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants workshop in St. Louis, April 23-24, 2020. This training is for grant seekers across all disciplines. Attend this class and you'll learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals.

[Click here for full event details.](#)

Beginning and experienced grant writers from city, county and state agencies as well as nonprofits, K-12, colleges and universities are encouraged to attend.

We are excited to MOARE members and their staff a special tuition rate of \$425 which includes everything: two days of terrific instruction, workbook, and access to our Alumni Forum that's packed full of tools, helpful discussions and more than 200 sample grant proposals. Please use discount code "ASSN" to receive this \$30 discount off full price at registration.

Multi-enrollment discounts and discounts for Grant Writing USA returning alumni are also available. Tuition payment is not required at the time of enrollment.

Complete event details including learning objectives, class location, graduate testimonials

and online registration are [available here](#).

**Contacts:**

Janet Darling  
at Grant Writing USA  
888.290.6237 toll free  
[janet@grantwritingusa.com](mailto:janet@grantwritingusa.com)

Dr. Stephen White, Dean, STEM B  
St. Louis Community College - Florissant Valley Campus  
314.513.4385  
[swhite324@stlcc.edu](mailto:swhite324@stlcc.edu)

More than 10,000 agencies across North America have turned to Grant Writing USA for grant writing and grant management training.

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

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

- Friday, May 8, 2020 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, May 9, 2020 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

**Northeast Missouri - Clark Co. R-I School District - (660) 727-2377**

- Friday, May 29, 2020 - (3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, May 30, 2020 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

**West Central Missouri - Warrensburg, MO - Comfort Inn - (660) 429-4848**

- Friday, May 29, 2020 - (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, May 30, 2020 - (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

**Northeast Missouri - Sturgeon R-V School District - (573) 687-3515**

- Friday, June 5, 2020 - (3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 6, 2020 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

- Friday, June 12, 2020 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 13, 2020 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

- Friday, June 26, 2020 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 27, 2020 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

- Wednesday, October 21, 2020 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Thursday, October 22, 2020 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

**\*\*\*PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ANY NEW BOARD MEMBER(S) NEEDING THE EIGHTEEN AND ONE-HALF (18.5) HOURS OF REQUIRED TRAINING.**

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.

**NEW Associate Member** - MARE is pleased to welcome Great Circle as a new Associate Member. Great Circle is a behavioral health organization that provides counseling, crisis programs, support, and care to children and families in Missouri and several other states. More information coming soon to the MARE website at [www.moare.com](http://www.moare.com).

**Legislative Notice** - Superintendents, Board Members, Teachers and other school patrons are encouraged to reach out to your respective Representatives regarding HB 2310 filed by Republican Representative John Wiemann. This bill promotes **Open Enrollment** across the state. Please contact your representatives and share your opposition to this harmful legislation. Talking points against include concerns with education of special needs students, funding, ability to budget and this is seen as a step toward consolidation of school districts.

**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. **Please access the information for this scholarship linked on the notice for this document!** The second program is the MARE/EdCounsel HS Senior Scholarship Program. The deadline to submit applications for this program has passed. All of those who applied will receive letters from the MARE office within the next few days.

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

**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](http://www.moare.com)!

### **10th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament**

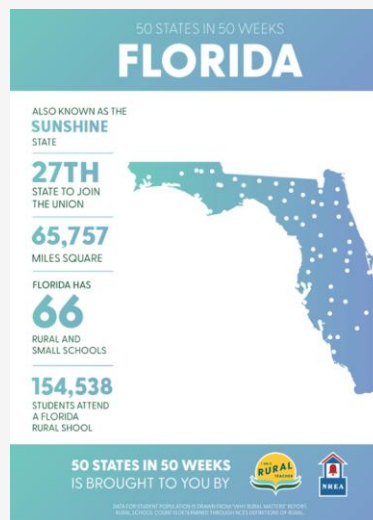
The Missouri Association of Rural Education will be hosting our 10th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament on Monday, July 20th at the beautiful Osage National Golf Course in Lake Ozark, Missouri. Over the past three years, with the assistance of our generous sponsors, we have been able to award \$76,000.00 in scholarship awards to both graduating HS Seniors and College Juniors/Seniors who have goals of becoming teachers

in Missouri rural schools. Our annual golf tournament is our primary fundraiser to support these awards. Linked below this message are the various documents associated with this event including the Golf Tournament Flyer, Registration Form, Sponsorship Form, Letter to Superintendents and a Letter to Business Partners. Since our event is not directly tied to the annual DESE Summer Conference this year, we will be offering a Legal Seminar the morning of the event prior to registration and tournament play. More information will be released soon regarding that opportunity. If you have questions regarding this event, please reach out directly to me at (660) 747-8050 or by email at [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com).

[Golf Sponsorship Information](#)  
[Golf Tournament Registration](#)

## **News from NREA - The Rural Educator**

### 50 States in 50 Weeks



Florida is our featured state this week for the 50 States in 50 Weeks project! Each week, NREA and the I Am A Rural Teacher Campaign share how vast rural America is.

Are you a Florida rural teacher? Let's hear from you, Florida School Board Association!

If you're from another state, your feature is coming soon, so submit today.

### [Preparing Rural Missouri Teachers with STEM-Focused Education Missouri S&T's teacher education program connects a University's unique assets with a rural region.](#)

Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, Missouri, is well known for its excellent engineering programs. But the university's STEM-focused atmosphere is also benefitting students in Missouri S&T's new department of teacher education and certification.



[Read More](#)



## [Q&A: 52 Years Later, There's Still More to Learn from RFK's East Kentucky Tour](#)



Robert F. Kennedy's visit to Eastern Kentucky in February 1968 – just a month before he announced his presidential bid and four months before his assassination – has been commemorated in books, documentaries, and public performances. Is there really anything more to add?

Journalist Matthew Algeo says yes. And he provides ample evidence in his [new book](#), *All This Marvelous Potential: Robert Kennedy's 1968 Tour of Appalachia* (Chicago Review Press).

[Read More](#)

## [Why Rural Matters 2018-2019: The Time is Now: Interview with Authors Jerry Johnson, Daniel Showalter, and Sara Hartman](#)



TRE editor Erin McHenry-Sorber recently spoke with three of the authors of the biennial report on the status of rural education published by the Rural School and Community Trust in partnership with the College Board and AASA: *The School Superintendents' Organization*. *Why Rural Matters 2018-2019 The Time is Now* examines the state of rural education in each of the 50 states in the United States. The authors describe the significance of the report and its implications for policy and practice.

[Read More](#)

## [Join Tech for Rural Districts](#)

**Tech for Rural Districts** is a free professional learning community for school superintendents, district leadership, and aspiring district leaders that work in rural school districts. The community will help district leaders in rural school districts make more effective



use of technology and support them in the challenges that smaller districts face when purchasing and integrating technology.

Cost-efficient and smart implementation of technology enhances all aspects of learning and better prepares students for college and careers. It is also critical to support performance analysis and operations so schools and districts are more efficient at a lower cost. This community and edWebinars will help identify the unique needs of rural districts and raise awareness of their funding needs and their need for broadband Internet service. School districts need greater opportunity for connecting rural, low income and other marginalized students to broadband.

[Read More](#)

## [Coronavirus School Closings Expose Digital Divide](#)



**THE MOUNTING SCHOOL** closures amid the coronavirus outbreak in the U.S. are exposing major equity gaps in access to technology and the internet, and the FCC needs to step in, according to FCC commissioners.

"Now is absolutely the time to talk about the coronavirus disruption and how technology can help," Jessica Rosenworcel, an FCC commissioner, said Tuesday during a Senate hearing. "Nationwide we are going to explore the expansion of tele-work, tele-health and tele-education, and in the process we are going to expose some really hard truths about the scope of the digital divide."

[Read More](#)

## [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#)



Schools should continue to collaborate, share information, and review plans with local health officials to help protect the whole school community, including those with special health needs. School plans should be designed to minimize disruption to teaching and learning and protect students and staff from social stigma and discrimination. Plans can build on everyday practices (e.g., encouraging hand hygiene, monitoring absenteeism, communicating routinely) that include strategies for *before*, *during*, and *after* a possible outbreak.

[Read More](#)

**NREA Essay Contest** - The annual NREA Foundation Essay Contest allows contestants to participate in three divisions: elementary, middle/junior high, and high school. Grades 3-8 may participate in a written essay contest using the provided prompt and rubric. Grades 9-12 may participate in a video essay contest using the provided prompt and rubric. The winner in the elementary division receives \$250. The runner-up will receive \$100. The winners in the middle/junior high and high school divisions receive \$400. The runner-ups receive a \$200 prize. For more information on this opportunity, please access the link below:

[http://www.nrea.net/Awards\\_and\\_Programs](http://www.nrea.net/Awards_and_Programs) - **Deadline is April 1st!**

**2020 Missouri Boys State** - Missouri Boys State will be held June 13-20, 2020 at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. For more information, go to <https://www.boysstate.org>. **MARE sponsors Missouri Boys State!**

**2020 Missouri Girls State** - Missouri Girls State will be held June 21-27, 2020 at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. For more information on this opportunity, please access [MissouriGirlsState.org](http://MissouriGirlsState.org). **MARE sponsors Missouri Girls State!**



## **Save the Date**

**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!** We will have five legal sessions, a Legal Panel, presentations from Dr. Margie Vandeven, Dr. Kari Monsees, Dr. Chris Neale, DESE Special Education, Federal Programs, "Outstanding Rural Awards" Luncheon, two receptions, great food, vendor hall, and many other opportunities to grow, learn and collaborate.

Information will be posted soon!

## **Quote of the Week**

**"You add value to people when you value them." John Maxwell**

## **MARE Organization Staff**

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