



MARE Focus

SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

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

L.J. Hart & Company

MASA MTS

MEUHP

Mike Keith Insurance

M.U.S.I.C.

MO. Consultants for Ed.

Patron Insight

Pro Solutions, LLC

Show-me-State Virtual Ed., 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 Administrative Search Services - MARE has been retained to conduct the following Administrative Searches:

Superintendent Search - Wellsville Middletown R-I – Dr. Paul Ricker is the Search Consultant. He can be reached by phone at (573) 365-4703 or by email at paulricker1@charter.net. **Application deadline - Friday, November 1st!** Information will be sent out and posted next week!

High School Principal Search - Canton R-V - Dr. Paul Ricker is the Search Consultant. He can be reached by phone at (573) 365-4703 or by email at paulricker1@charter.net. **Application deadline is Wednesday, November 27th!** Information will be sent out and posted in early October!

Superintendent Search -Strasburg C-3 - Dr. Mike Jinks is the Search Consultant. He can be reached by phone at (660) 441-7473 or by email at 19mj46@charter.net. **Application deadline - TBA (late November)!** Information will be sent out and posted in early October!

Top Eight (8) Reasons You Should Attend the Conference

It is hard to believe that we are just six (6) weeks away from the annual MARE/MO K-8 Conference. The 2019 MARE/MO K-8 Annual Conference will be held Wednesday, October 23rd (12:00 noon - Pre-Conference Session) through Friday, October 25th (11:00 a.m. - Closing Session) at the beautiful Lodge of Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, Missouri. The theme of this year's joint conference is "Working Together Toward Tomorrow." Click [here 2019 Conference Planner at a Glance](#) to see the conference schedule! **So, why should you and/or Board members from your school district take time out of busy schedules to attend this year's event! Here are the Top 8 Reasons Why You Should Attend:**

1. The conference is focused on the following topics - DESE Presentations (Data and Finance), Legal Topics, School Showcase Topics, Legislative News, Technology and Student Safety Topics. Every "Small Group Session" round features both a legal topic and a DESE presentation. The information presented in each session is up-to-date and pertinent for Missouri school district leaders.
2. The conference kicks off at 12:00 noon with a 45 minute presentation by Learning Blade. This company was awarded a contract with DESE to offer middle school students more opportunities for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and Computer Science (CS) career awareness at no cost to the school district. Come and see how this program may be of great benefit to your school district!
3. The conference officially kicks off at 1:00 p.m. with "A Conversation with the Commissioner." Dr. Margie Vandeven, Missouri Commissioner of Education, will spend time with those in attendance providing updates on current state education activities. She will also answer questions and engage in casual conversation with attendees.
4. As part of our conference this year, we will be offering "Refresher Board Training" for Board members who have previously completed the required 16 hours of Board Training. This "Refresher Training" will include training required under HB 604 regarding the prevention of sexual abuse of children. We will also be providing the 18.5 hours of training required for newly elected or appointed Board members that also includes the 2.5 hours

required under HB 604 regarding the prevention of sexual abuse of children.

5. The conference is structured to provide numerous opportunities to visit with colleagues and collaborate during sessions, between sessions and during receptions and meals in a more relaxed environment.

6. During the luncheon on Thursday, October 24th, Missouri Teacher of the Year for 2018-2019, Shelly Parks, will share a message. This will be followed by the presentation of several "Outstanding Rural Education Awards", including Rural Teacher, Rural Administrator, Rural Support Staff Member and Rural School District. There will also be a presentation of a "Friend of Rural Education" award!

7. Many of the rural DESE Area Supervisors will be our guests during the conference thus providing you an opportunity to visit with them in a more relaxed, informal setting.

8. In addition to all of the above, the conference will provide you with great food, great fun and the opportunity to visit with numerous business organizations that provide products and services for and strongly support rural education. You will also have the opportunity to register for a number of prize drawings to be held throughout the conference!

[2019 Conference Registration Form](#)

[2019 Conference Exhibitor and Sponsor Registration Form - page 1](#)

[2019 Conference Exhibitor and Sponsor Registration Form - page 2](#)

[2019 Board Training Registration Form](#)

[Outstanding Rural Education Nomination Form & Information](#)

If you have questions regarding the conference, please do not hesitate to call (660) 747-8050 or email at ksandlin@moare.com. See you in October!

MARE Board Training Program Update - As most of you are aware, one of the provisions of HB 604 added additional training requirements for school board members who serve in Missouri. MARE's new Board Training Program will now consist of eighteen hours and thirty minutes of training including two hours and thirty minutes **"that provides up-to-date and reliable information on identifying signs of sexual abuse in children and danger signals of potentially abusive relationships between children and adults"**. Additionally, the law now requires those currently serving as school board members to participate in one hour of annual refresher training that **shall address concepts covered in the initial training including, but not limited to, the prevention of sexual abuse of children**. We are currently working on creating these additional training materials (Presentations, Videos, etc.) and will make these available in the near future. The MARE Board Training scheduled on October 23rd and October 24th as part of the Annual MARE/MO K-8 Conference will include the 2.5 hours of additional training for new board members. It is likely that we will schedule some area training events or workshops to help provide this new content during this upcoming school year! Please stay tuned for more information on this training.

***The Board Training Program offered by MARE has been approved by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.**

MARE Welcomes K12itc as New Associate Member

MARE is pleased to welcome K12itc as a new Associate Member.

K12itc delivers customized technology solutions and services to K-12 school districts nationwide. By leveraging a special mix of cloud computing and on-site support, K12itc has developed a model that allows schools to achieve better support at a lower cost. K12itc provides over 450 schools with better technology that leads to better teaching.

Krista Sandt

Account Manager

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menloinc.com k12itc.com civicitc.com

MARE Welcomes Performance Services as an Associate Member

MARE is very pleased to welcome Performance Services as a new Associate Member.

Performance Services is an integrated design and delivery company that specializes in constructing and renovating education facilities. We deliver optimal environments through design-build and energy performance contracts. Energy Leadership programs, solar power solutions and water management strategies are integral to our portfolio. Our company is proud to serve as an ENERGY STAR partner and has helped customers achieve the ENERGY STAR Symbol of Excellence at more than 130 buildings to date.

Missouri schools must make the most of available funds. Our approach to working with you begins with the end goal in mind: the best use of your available budget to provide high performing facilities and an improved learning environment.

- Comprehensive assessments
- For schools, bond election support services
- A highly collaborative and listening approach
- Detailed engineering design
- Performance and energy savings guarantees
- A long-term customer relationship

Sterling Miller | Business Development Manager

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(314) 854-1356

231 S. Bemiston Ave, Suite 800

St. Louis, Missouri 63105

www.performanceservices.com

MARE Welcomes SM Wilson as New Associate Member

MARE is very pleased to welcome SM Wilson as a new Associate Member.

Founded in 1921, S. M. Wilson is a full-service construction management firm. The employee-owned company is dedicated to going above and beyond expectations for their

clients by putting people first. S. M. Wilson partners with rural Missouri School Districts, through the Construction Management at Risk delivery. This best value approach to construction allows

a customized approach for every community. Benefits of our approach include:

- A Construction Partner
- Minimized Risk with a Guaranteed Maximum Price
- Transparency in Decisions and Dollars
- Collaboration from Start to Finish
- Build with Best Value Partners

Your district deserves a partner who can help you transform a building project into a design &

construction experience. For more information, visit smwilson.com or contact Kristyn Newbern,

kristyn.newbern@smwilson.com or 314-633-9641.

MARE Welcomes Strivven Media as New Associate Member

Headquartered in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Asheville, North Carolina, Strivven Media is a leading developer of engaging multimedia career exploration software platforms for student and adult users. The flagship product, VirtualJobShadow.com, has been adopted by schools and workforce centers all over the country and currently serves over one million users. VJS Junior (VJSJunior.com) is an innovative sister platform created specifically for Elementary Schools and younger learners. Both platforms have opened the door to equitable career exploration for all.

At the heart of both programs is Career Central, an ever-expanding library of engaging job shadowing videos filmed with actual employed professionals. These videos document a “day in the life of” men and women across hundreds of professions, that span all the Career Clusters. Accompanying assessments on both VirtualJobShadow.com and VJS Junior guide learners to determine best fit careers.

VJS Junior delivers complete lessons around each Career Cluster in an animated story format in which learners zoom around the world with a group of four trusty friends called the “Career Crew.” Interactive games reinforce learning throughout each lesson. VirtualJobShadow.com offers deeper research tools around colleges and careers, including a resume builder and goal setting tool, as well as lesson plans to support in-class instruction across many topics related to soft skills and job preparation. FlexLessons allows admins to create and deliver their own lessons directly to students.

To learn more visit www.VirtualJobShadow.com and www.VJSJunior.com. Missouri Sales Representative Melinda Spivey can be reached at mspivey@strivven.com or 888-908-4924 ext. 15.

MASA Benefit Solves Issues Brought to Light in NPR Story

This past weekend, National Public Radio featured a story regarding air ambulance services in rural Kansas. The story featured the life-saving benefits that air ambulances companies provide every day. The story centered on Fort Scott, where the hospital closed last year, and how the air ambulance service has become an important part of the health delivery system in that city. The NPR story can be found at

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/09/14/760680901/air-ambulances-woo-rural-consumers-with-memberships-that-may-leave-them-hanging>

The article also brought to light the complexities of air ambulance company subscription programs. Since these membership programs are only applicable when you fly on a helicopter owned by the ambulance service offering the subscription, consumers who believed they were covered for air ambulance usage have found out that this is not always the case.

MASA Medical Transport Solutions, the preferred provider for emergent air and ground services of the Missouri Association of Rural Education, provides the solution to this issue. Since MASA does not own any domestic air ambulances, federal law allows them to cover the cost of services on ALL air ambulance providers. Plus, their plan also offers coverage for emergent ground ambulance services.

To learn more about how MASA can be implemented as an employee benefit at your hospital, contact Andrew Zink (azink@masamts.com) at 314-540-5729.

Outstanding Rural Education Awards - MARE is accepting nominations for the following awards to be presented as part of the MARE/MO K-8 Conference on Thursday, October 24th:

- Outstanding Rural Support Staff Member Award
- Outstanding Rural Teacher Award
- Outstanding Rural Administrator Award
- Outstanding Rural School District Award

For more information on these awards, please access the [Nomination Form](#) or go to the MARE website at www.moare.com. **The deadline is 10/4/2019!**

MARE Associate Members - Our organization simply could not do the work that we do or provide the services and programs that we offer without the generous support of our Associate Members. Please click here to access a list: [..\Associate Members\2019-2020 Associate Members.docx](#)

School Board Training Dates - MARE will provide trainings as follows:

Central Missouri - The Lodge of the Four Seasons - Lake Ozark, Missouri (573-365-3000)

- Wednesday, October 23, 2019 (12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.)
- Thursday, October 24, 2019 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

To register, go online (<http://www.moare.com/>) and complete the electronic form found under Board Training or contact Kevin Sandlin at ksandlin@moare.com.

Legal Articles – Check out the various legal articles posted on our website at www.moare.com. Special thanks to our partners at EdCounsel, Mickes O’Toole, Guin Mundorf, and Tueth Keeney for providing these articles

News from NREA - The Rural Educator

So What the Importance of Knowing About Success and Failure in American Schools Part I & II: Larry Cuban

<https://larrycuban.wordpress.com/2019/09/12/so-what-the-importance-of-knowing-about-success-and-failure-in-american-schools-part-1/>

<https://larrycuban.wordpress.com/2019/09/14/so-what-the-importance-of-knowing-about-success-and-failure-in-american-schools-part-2/>

The Perfect Storm of Education Reform: High-Stakes Testing and Teacher Evaluation Sheryl J. Croft, Mari Ann Roberts & Vera L. Stenhouse*

<https://files.constantcontact.com/1c621825201/288da5a8-97b5-4c56-a04d-f2bf50409b48.pdf>

Lack of internet access is holding rural communities back. Students too.

DENNIS PARMAN

https://helenair.com/opinion/columnists/lack-of-internet-access-is-holding-rural-communities-back-students/article_d4d4eaf2-949c-569b-bc29-802e35e4d325.html

DSL, the Slowest Technology, Remains the One Most Available in Rural

Three-quarters of rural households have DSL available, according to data self-reported by internet service providers. But only about half of rural households have access to higher-speed cable internet, according to an analysis by the Purdue Center for Regional Development.

<https://www.dailyonder.com/dsl-the-slowest-technology-remains-the-one-most-available-in-rural/2019/09/18/>

Report:

<https://pcrd.purdue.edu/files/media/008-A-Look-at-Broadband-Access-Providers-and-Technology.pdf>

MUSIC - Fall Legal Liability Workshops

MUSIC Legal Liability Fall Workshops will be conducted by Tom Mickes through our partnership with Missouri Consultants for Education. Registration is now open on the MUSIC member website and can be accessed from the homepage or the Events tab.

The topics this year focus on several timely staff and student issues that will assist you in protecting your district or college from potential risk of litigation. We encourage you to include all administrative staff and any board members who may benefit from this training. Check out the website at www.musicprogram.org to register!

Quote of the Week

What greater joy can a teacher feel than to witness a child's success?

— Michelle L. Graham

MARE Organization Staff

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