



MARE Focus

DECEMBER 23, 2024

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

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.

MOCAAT

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MARE PARTNERSHIPS

- LEGAL HOTLINE: ED COUNSEL, GUIN MUNDORF, MICKES O'TOOLE, TUETH KEENEY
- EDPLUS
- AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE
- GIRLS STATE

MISSOURI ADMIN. JOB POSTING

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

Jamestown C-1 Superintendent Search – Dr. Jamie Burkhart is the consultant. She can be reached at (660) 525-0952 or jamiebeth.burkhart@gmail.com. **Closes – 01/02/25**

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

**** We anticipate additional openings to post within the next three weeks!**

Check out the MARE website at www.moare.com for announcements/applications!

Wade Schroeder – One of our Own! – I am saddened to announce that Wade Schroeder lost his battle with cancer this past weekend. Many of you know Wade who was a long-time educator here in Missouri, with stops including Holden R-III, Crest Ridge R-VII and Braymer C-4. I would encourage all of you to take a moment and say a prayer for his wife Candace, their daughters and all of the rest of the family.

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. Since 2017, MARE has provided a total of \$262,000.00 in scholarships through these two programs.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from MARE!

Nearpod & Flocabulary Information/Camp Engage Opportunity

I've linked a couple of resources and brief description below.

Nearpod Brochure - Nearpod is the most comprehensive instructional platform for educators to deliver engaging teaching and learning experiences that drive results. The magic of Nearpod comes from our 20+ dynamic media and formative question types that help teachers respond to the educational moment live and real time for every student. These engagement tools can be built into resources you already love or explore the Nearpod Library with over 22,000 high quality standards aligned resources in every subject area k-12. [Quick Video](#)

Flocabulary Brochure- Flocabulary is a tool that helps students master academic content, build schema or background knowledge, and academic vocabulary through academic hip hop videos. The lesson activities build core literacy skills through engagement, mastery, and student creativity. [Quick Video](#)

Camp Engage - February 7th - 9th, 2025 - Camp Engage is a FREE virtual PD event for educators like you; packed with interactive, expert-led sessions focused on topics you care about and innovative strategies to support your instruction. Each session is designed to provide immediate classroom impact, so you can apply what you learn at Camp Engage right away. Earn PD credits, make connections, and have fun!

Sammy Contact Information -
sammy.welsh@nearpod.com
(850) 655-2169
[Calendar Link](#)

I look forward to continuing our partnership. I'll reach back out in the new year once I hear more about the other solutions I can offer Missouri Schools. Let me know if you need anything else in the meantime, always happy to help!

Happy Holidays:)
Sammy Welsh



Sammy Welsh
Account Executive
Small School District Specialist
Nearpod & Flocabulary
M: (850) 655-2169



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www.nearpod.com



[Book time to meet with me](#)

Enjoy your Christmas Break – Hug Those Close to You!

Undaunted K12 News

We have exciting news to share: School districts have begun receiving checks from the IRS for installing clean energy technologies!

Through the Inflation Reduction Act's Elective Pay, [schools can earn tax credits](#) for clean energy projects - something that the private sector and households have been able to do for years. These technologies can improve aging facilities, lower operating costs, and make schools healthier for students.

Today, we're celebrating four districts that are among the first to have received checks from the IRS. While [districts across the country](#) seek to follow in their footsteps over the next decade, members of Congress are [discussing the future](#) of clean energy tax credits. Details below:



North Fayette Valley Community School District, Iowa

\$873,483 check received!

West Union Elementary School replaced its failing 1957 boiler with a ground-source heat pump system, a \$4.2 million project completed by local contractor [Casper Plumbing and Heating](#).

[Learn more](#)



Seattle Public Schools, Washington

\$7,970,439 check received!

Seattle Public Schools had ground-source heat pump systems installed at three elementary schools. The district employed apprentices and met high-

road labor standards in all three projects.

[Learn more](#)



Hart County School District, Kentucky \$739,079 check received!

Memorial Elementary School replaced a legacy HVAC system with a modern ground-source heat pump system. The work was completed by [CMTA](#), a national leader in zero energy buildings based in Louisville.

[Learn more](#)



**Oregon School District, Wisconsin
\$73,761 check received!**

Oregon School District, home to Wisconsin's first net-zero school, added a rooftop solar array to Oregon High School. [Full Spectrum Solar](#), a local family-owned and operated business, completed this project.

[Learn more](#)

These clean energy investments are modernizing aging school infrastructure, creating local jobs, and generating savings for districts. Elective Pay has made these opportunities more accessible than ever, already opening the door for over 300 schools across 38 states and Washington D.C.

Our team will continue to [track districts pursuing eligible clean energy projects](#) and raise awareness about this opportunity for schools. To help your district take advantage of this opportunity, we invite you to share this email and the following resources with your network:

- [Schools and the Inflation Reduction Act Overview](#)

- [Getting Started For District Leaders](#)
- [Getting Started for Advocates](#)

And lastly, as the future of clean energy tax credits is at risk, you can help us size up what is at stake for our schools. [Tell us](#) about a clean energy project underway in your community.

With gratitude and determination,
Jonathan and Sara
Co-Founders, UndauntedK12

Missouri Social Studies Curriculum News – Rhett Oldham

[Missouri Social Studies Information](#)

Dr. Rhett Oldham
Director of Social Studies Curriculum-DESE
573-751-0398 (w)

Innovate 2025 Conference – February 23-25, 2025

The **innovate 2025 conference** scheduled for **February 23 – 25** provides a variety of opportunities to connect, learn and grow alongside educators and thought leaders. From breakout sessions led by national speakers and regional educators, panel discussions with local experts and an exhibitor expo, teachers and leaders will benefit from the content around instructional design, culture and climate, technology and leadership.

What to Expect:

- **Engaging Breakout Sessions** led by educators sharing practical and inspiring insights
- **Interactive Content Panels** with education leaders on hot topics and trends
- **National Speakers** with proven strategies and innovative ideas that can be implemented immediately into your school\ classroom
- **exhibitor expo and podcast row** featuring innovative tools and resources

Conference Topics:

Sessions are designed to spark ideas, introduce new strategies and challenge traditional thinking in critical areas of leadership, wellness, belonging, integration, culture and design. Topics include:

- AI in education
- Digital Literacy
- Student Engagement
- Competency-based Instruction and Assessment
- Building Classroom Culture
- Enhancing Creativity in the Classroom

- Student and Educator Wellbeing
- Student and Educator Leadership
- Behavior Management
- Lesson Design

Keynote Speakers

This year's lineup includes:

- **Stephanie Boyce** – Founder of [Freshclassroom](#), Stephanie wants to show ALL people entry points for engagement to ensure equitable outcomes for students.
- **Taylor Hughes** -Author of *Road to Wonder*, [Taylor's storytelling and pres-tidigitation](#) will spark wonder in every aspect of life.
- **Roy Moye, III** – Funder of [STEMusic](#), Roy wants to inspire the next generation of multicultural STEM professionals through engaging and entertaining music.
- **David Preston** – Author of *Academy of One*, David will share practices and strategies for Open-Source Learning.

Expanded Content & Registration Options:

This year, the conference has expanded to 2 ½ days! Registration options include two-day or single day registrations. **All registrations include the Sunday evening keynote with Taylor Hughes and the exhibitor expo cocktail party on Monday afternoon.**

Ready to Register?

Get your team ready for #innovate25! Discover more about the conference on the [website](#) and secure your spots [here](#). **Early Bird Registration ends December 18!**

Christine Stanek McDonald

Director of Communications

EducationPlus

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Quote of the Week

“I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach.”

Ebenezer Scrooge – Charles Dickens “A Christmas Carol”

Begin the New Year with a Goal to Make Things Better!

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:

		
John Jungmann Vice-President Investment Services	Jason Hoffman Vice-President Investment Services	Paul Ziegler Coordinator, Sales & Relationship Manager
(417) 228-4148 jjungmann@pmanetwork.com	(573) 212-6258 jhoffman@pmanetwork.com	(417) 387-6005 pziegler@pmanetwork.com

Preparing for the Upcoming Legislative Session – As this year winds down, it is time now to gear up for the rapidly approaching Missouri Legislative Session which officially begins on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. In fact, pre-filing of legislation for the session officially kicked off today. Some suggestions as you prepare for the session include the following: 1) Get to know your area senator and representatives, especially if these folks are new to Jefferson City! 2) Arrange your calendar to be able to join the Monday morning MASA calls that are provided each week during the session. 3) Read the weekly MASA Legislative Bulletin that comes out on Friday and stay informed on the various pieces of legislation that will impact education and the overall budget. 4) Share with your local legislators how the various pieces of proposed legislation will impact your district. This is especially true of SB 727! 5) Plan to take part in Legislative Rally Days as arranged by various groups – MASA/MARE/MRTA/MSTA/MNEA. 6) Encourage BOE members and key community leaders to become active in the legislative process and sharing the great things that are happening in your local school district and community!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from MARE!

MARE Organization Staff

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