



MARE Focus

JANUARY 14, 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 Search Services - MARE has been retained to conduct the following Superintendent Searches:

Superintendent Search - Rich Hill R-IV - Dr. Jerry Cochran is the Search Consultant. He can be reached by phone at (660) 668-3787 or by email at cochranj115@gmail.com. Information is attached on the MARE Focus Cover Page and posted on the MARE website at www.moare.com. **Deadline to apply is Friday, January 31st!**

Superintendent Search - Mexico 59 - Dr. Michael Jinks is the Search Consultant. He can be reached by phone at (660) 441-7473 or by email at 19mj46@charter.net. Information is attached on the MARE Focus Cover Page and posted on the MARE website at www.moare.com. **Deadline to apply is Friday, January 31st!**

Other Vacancies Posted on the MARE website:

Assistant Middle School Principal & Process Coordinator/Psychological Examiner - Gasconade Co. R-II - For more information on these openings, please access the district website at www.dutchmen.us.

MARE Board Training Program Update - The new Board Refresher Training video links were emailed to all MARE member school district Superintendents back in November. If you did not receive the email, please contact me. We are in the process of developing our schedule of Board Training events for 2020. This schedule will be posted not later than March 1, 2020!

****Additional Training Opportunity**

January 24th - MARE Board Training - Holiday Inn in Poplar Bluff (12:00-6:00 p.m.)

January 25th - MARE Board Training - Holiday Inn in Poplar Bluff (8:00-4:30 p.m.)

Contact Kevin Sandlin at ksandlin@moare.com for registration information!

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. Application materials will be sent to all Missouri colleges that have an education program in late November. The second program is open to seniors of MARE member school districts. Eligible students must be planning to pursue a degree in education. Information regarding this program will be sent out to all High School Counselors in late November. **Please access the information for each scholarship linked on the notice for this document!**

Deadline to apply for the HS Senior Scholarships is March 6, 2020!

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!

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.

[2020 Golf Tournament Flyer](#)
[Golf Sponsorship Information](#)
[Golf Tournament Registration](#)

News from NREA - The Rural Educator

School closures can hit rural communities hard by Dr. Mara Tieken

<http://theconversation.com/school-closures-can-hit-rural-communities-hard-128837>

Alaska's Rural Schools Struggle to Attract Teachers Despite High Salaries

Educators in rural parts of the state earn an average of more than \$102,000 per year.

By [Casey Leins](#) Staff Writer

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/articles/2019-11-26/alaskas-rural-schools-struggle-to-attract-teachers-despite-offering-high-salaries>

Commentary: Making Our Towns Better Places to Live

A holistic approach to community development means looking beyond strict economics to other factors that sustain rural communities. By **Scott Thompson**

<https://www.dailyonder.com/commentary-making-our-towns-better-places-to-live/2020/01/10/>

Two-Thirds of Rural Counties Gain Jobs from November 2018 to 2019

A familiar pattern emerges in the latest monthly employment figures. The more rural a county, the slower its job gains are. By **Bill Bishop**

<https://www.dailyonder.com/two-thirds-of-rural-counties-gain-jobs-from-november-2018-to-2019/2020/01/09/>

Global Teletherapy Currently staffs 100+ schools in over 30 states with Speech-Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, and Mental Health Professionals to provide Online Therapy (Teletherapy). They have developed the trust and relationships amongst many schools and therapists all across the United States. <https://globalteletherapy.com/experience-now/> They currently help many Rural Schools across the United States including a partnership with Nebraska Rural Schools Association (NRCSA). Please let Rafi Cohn rafi@globalteletherapy.com know if you'd like to set a call to discuss how they can help your member school districts across the state. Here is a video of some of the schools that they have worked with, in Nebraska. [Nebraska Testimonial Video- Click me!](#)

GotZoom. They specialize in securing student loan assistance for their clients as well as successfully enrolling them in loan forgiveness programs. It almost sounds too good to be true, but folks all around the country are using this company to help people find ways to reduce their payments and even eliminate their student loan debt in a few years.

During the past 7 years, GotZoom's expertise has reduced the monthly student loan payments for their clients by an average of 65% as well as the total payout over the life of the loan. See sample matrix below.

If you would like to learn more about these student loan cost reduction programs and how GotZoom can provide you with a no cost, no obligation "complimentary" analysis of how much of your student loan debt could be reduced, [click here to view a short 3 minute video explanation.](#)

The Rural Education Investment Act

Rural school districts and communities across the United States are currently facing a number of pressing issues, including lack of funding, outdated infrastructure, and a growing teacher shortage. Many rural school districts have a lack of a tax base due to adjacent federal land, such as military bases. According to [a 2017 report by the School Superintendents Association](#), 53% of all public school districts in the United States are located in rural areas, and these students make up nearly one-fifth of America's K-12 population.

One of the ways to combat inadequate funding in rural areas and a worsening teacher shortage is by ensuring that rural America gets its fair share. Programs like the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) Grant Program allow teachers to be placed in a full-time classroom apprenticeship while completing Masters-level coursework. However, only a handful of these TQP Grants reach rural areas that are desperate for more teachers.

The Rural Education Investment Act requires the Secretary of Education to determine the percent of K-12 students living in rural areas and ensures that percentage of TQP Grant dollars go to schools in rural areas.

Specifically, the bill:

- Defines the term 'local educational agency located in rural area' using eligibility requirements from the Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP):
 - Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) Program
 - Rural and Low-Income School (RLIS) Program
- Requires the Secretary of Education at the beginning of every year to determine the percentage of K-12 students served by 'local educational agencies located in rural areas.'
- Ensures that percentage is at least the percentage of TQP Grant dollars that go to schools in rural areas.

For more information or to add your boss as a cosponsor, please contact Noah Yantis in Rep. Bost's office at noah.yantis@mail.house.gov

Missouri Combatting the Opioid Epidemic in Schools

The Missouri Association of Rural Education, along with numerous other organizations, is participating on a Workforce Task Group, to review issues and share information centering around the opioid epidemic that is facing our nation, state, local communities and even many of our school districts.

[Opioid Presentation - Dr. Melissa Maras, MARE/MO K-8 Conference](#)

[Missouri's Opioid Crisis - What's Being Done and How You Can Help!](#)

Here are some additional links to awesome resources that you can use in your schools and share with your community.

COPE: Opioid and Prescription Drug Prevention Education

(<https://t.e2ma.net/message/9bl6lb/xawcdu>)

·COPE: Heroin & Opioid Awareness and Prevention Toolkit

(<https://t.e2ma.net/message/hma7lb/xawcdu>)

·COPE: Parents 360Rx (<https://t.e2ma.net/message/xeb7lb/xawcdu>)

·COPE: Above the Influence (<https://t.e2ma.net/message/d7b7lb/xawcdu>)

Dear COPE Collaborators and committee members

FREE HARD COPIES (1 per district; multiple copies by request for large districts) of The Opioid and Prescription Drug Prevention Education Curriculum from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services/Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education are NOW AVAILABLE to order. <https://health.mo.gov/living/families/schoolhealth/resources.php>

This K-12 drug use prevention curriculum, aligned with National and Missouri Standards, is designed to support local health education. The curriculum includes: lesson plans/outlines, presentation slides, activities, and handouts for each grade. The developmentally-appropriate lessons aim to build students' prevention skills and functional knowledge to make healthy choices about drugs and medicines throughout their lives. The curriculum, as well as other school/community opioid prevention resources, can also be found online at <https://kwelker.wixsite.com/opioideducation>.

We wanted to share this information with you, first as our COPE collaborators. Our next step will be to announce this opportunity for free resources via DHSS and DESE list-serves.

Melissa, Lesha and I appreciate your dedication to this project. As we wrap up the work, we will be in touch to find new/novel ways to stay connected and to send you a summary of our shared work.

It is my belief that 2020 will be the best year yet for all of us. Please check the address list and forward to your committee members if I left them off.

Marge

Marjorie Cole, MSN, RN, FASHA

State School Nurse Consultant

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

Bureau of Community Health and Wellness

Marjorie.Cole@health.mo.gov

Please call 573-522-2822 to reach staff that manages my calendar and knows how to reach me at all times.

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 on this wonderful opportunity, go to <https://www.boysstate.org>. **MARE is a proud sponsor of 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. **MARE is a proud sponsor of Missouri Girls State!**

Save the Date

MUSIC - Annual Membership Meeting - The MUSIC Annual Membership meeting will be held on Thursday, January 30th and Friday, January 31st at The Lodge of Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, Missouri. Please access their website at www.musicprogram.org.

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! Information and forms will be made available in April!

Quote of the Week

"There can be no separation in your organization. You win as a team; you lose as a team!" Mike Shanahan

MARE Organization Staff

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