



MARE Focus

MARCH 1, 2021

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 Technology
- L.J. Hart & Company
- MASA MTS
- MEUHP
- Mike Keith Insurance
- M.U.S.I.C.
- MO. Consultants for Ed.
- Pro Energy Solutions, LLC
- SOCS

MARE PARTNERSHIPS

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

MARE Superintendent Searches

– MARE has been retained to conduct the following Superintendent Searches:

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Superintendent of Schools - Purdy R-II - Dr. Paul Ricker is the Search Consultant. Paul can be reached by phone at (573) 365-4703 or by email at paulricker1@charter.net.

Application deadline is Friday, March 5, 2021!

Superintendent of Schools - Sturgeon R-V - Dr. Jerry Cochran is the Search Consultant. Jerry can be reached by phone at (660) 668-3787 or by email at

cochranj115@gmail.com. **Application deadline is Monday, March 8, 2021!**

Other Vacancies

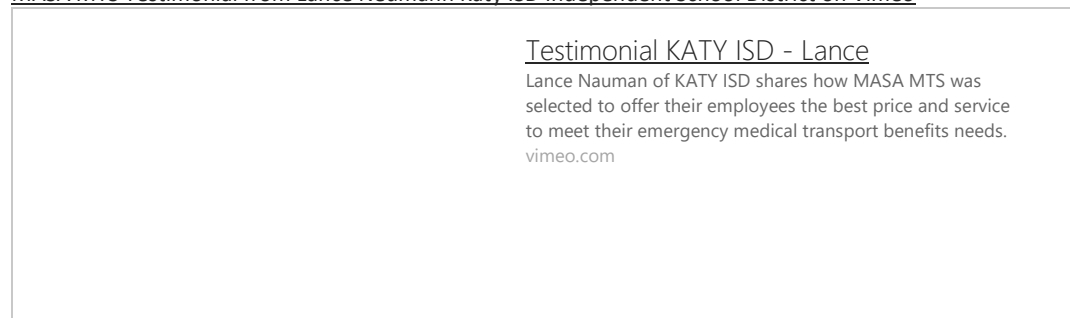
Everton R-III Superintendent of Schools - contact Mike Wallace at (417) 535-2221

Ballard R-II Superintendent of Schools - contact John Siebeneck at (816) 297-2656

MASA Medical Transport Solutions - A video testimonial!

I wanted to share a recent testimonial video from one of MASA MTS's proud clients. Katy ISD is the 5th largest school district in the State of Texas. I would encourage you to watch this powerful three-minute testimonial.

MASA MTS Testimonial from Lance Neumann Katy ISD Independent School District on Vimeo



If you have questions about how MASA MTS's programs can benefit your district staff or for more information, please contact Andrew Zink at the email address or phone number listed below!

Andrew Zink

Regional Sales Director - Midwest

AZink@MASAmts.com

C: 314-540-5729 | HQ: 1-800-643-9023

MARE Welcomes Beyond the Tassel as Associate Member

Missouri Association for Rural Education (MARE) is announcing a very special new partnership with Beyond the Tassel, a robust rural education equity initiative, which consists of family and student messaging through its Podcast, and student storytelling platform, both customizable for each of our local member schools.

For more information on this exciting new opportunity, please access this link:

[Beyond the Tassel - MARE Partnership](#)

Legislative News

The legislative session is upon us and many bills touted as Education Reform are being heard in committees and will likely soon be debated on the House or Senate floor. Please note the following bills and ask your elected Representatives and Senators to vote **NO** on - HB 942 (School Accreditation & Assessments), HB 349 (Voucher Tax Credits), HB 137 (Charter Funding), SB 55 (Education Omnibus Bill), HB 151 (Superintendent Consolidation), HB 754 (Virtual Expansion), HB 303 (Open Enrollment), HB 543 (Open Enrollment). We have to stand together to defeat these bills!

<https://house.mo.gov/> and <https://www.senate.mo.gov/>

Defined Learning Webinar Opportunity

What are the experts saying about how to grow student engagement and accelerate learning during this unprecedented time? What's their advice on how to make this happen in your district?

Join us on March 9th for a free online summit featuring leaders in education who will help you rethink how to engage students in meaningful learning that combats learning loss. School districts from across the country like Talladega County Schools, Shelby County (TN) and Richardson ISD will share their perspectives on how to achieve this through Project-Based Learning and STEM education.

- **Topic:** [Growing Student Engagement & Accelerating Learning](#)
- **Date:** Tuesday, March 9th, 2021
- **Time:** 10 AM - 4 PM CT. Participate in all or part as time permits

[REGISTER FREE NOW](#)

Here's who will be among the inspiring keynote speakers:



Jay McTighe

Award-winning and best-selling author



Dr. Cindy Moss

STEM Educator and National Speaker

Can't attend on March 9th? Register and we'll email you a recording of the presentations.

Patron Insight - Small School District Initiative - A Big Success

By the end of February, Patron Insight's Small School District Initiative will have provided complimentary stakeholder research to eight school districts with 5,000 or fewer students. Those districts include MARE members East Lynne 40, located near Kansas City and Hallsville R-IV, north of Columbia.

It's one way of demonstrating Patron Insight's commitment to "Giving Back," by conducting research on behalf of districts that would not be able to afford it otherwise. The participating districts have learned a lot about, for example, their communities, where their patrons get information about their school districts and what their residents want to hear more about from their districts.

Entry forms for the 2021-2022 edition of the company's Small School District Initiative will be provided in the Patron Insight newsletter later in the summer and the link will also appear in a *MARE Focus* newsletter around that same time. If you have any questions in the meantime – or you want to sign up for the "3-minute read" Patron Insight newsletter – please contact Ken DeSieghardt at (direct) 816-225-0668 or ken@patroninsight.com

MOCAAT Welcomes Jason Hoffman

PMA Welcomes Jason Hoffman to the MOCAAT Team

PMA is pleased to announce that **Jason Hoffman** will be joining the team as **Coordinator, Sales and Relationship Management**. Jason will partner with the [Missouri Capital Asset Advantage Treasury \(MOCAAT\)](#) to serve school districts throughout the state of Missouri. His Missouri experience and commitment, coupled with PMA's depth and expertise, will serve Missouri school districts as a trusted partner.



Jason has over twenty years of experience in financial leadership for Missouri schools. He began his career in finance with the State of Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. He went on to serve as Business Manager for St. James R-I School District and Hallsville R-IV/Centralia R-VI School Districts. Jason is currently the Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operating Officer of Jefferson City Schools. He is set to retire from Jefferson City in June, and he will begin with PMA and the MOCAAT investment program on **July 1st. *Continue reading below...***

[Read the Full Release](#)

Mickes O'Toole - Legal Webinar on First Amendment Speech

First Amendment Speech

First Amendment Speech - March 5th, 2021 (9:00 am - 9:30 am) | [Learn More Here](#)

With the ease of electronic communications it is not uncommon for staff to post comments or render opinions on a variety of topics. Have you ever found yourself asking, "is it okay for my staff member to say that?" Join attorney Brittany Newell for a free 30-minute discussion to walk you through how to reach the answer to that question.

Presented by [Brittany Newell](#).

Please use the link below to register.

If you have any questions please direct them to Heather Lawson at hlawson@mickesotoole.com

[Registration and More Info](#)



Mickes O'Toole, LLC

12444 Powerscourt Dr., Suite 400
St. Louis, Missouri 63131
www.mickesotoole.com

Dynamic Mindfulness A Research Project Opportunity for Middle and High Schoolers

What is Dynamic Mindfulness? Dynamic Mindfulness (DMind) is program that teaches stress resilience and social and emotional learning. Each DMind class includes the key elements of mindful movement, breathing practices, and centering practices. What are the Benefits to DMind? • DMind can help you learn to deal with stress. • DMind can help you to get along better with friends and family. • DMind can give you skills to feel more confident in handling life challenges. • DMind is completely free. • DMind can be done from the comfort of your own home. The Details: What: 16, 45-minute live interactive zoom sessions to learn and practice new skills. When: Monday March 1-Thursday March 25. All groups will occur in the afternoon, after school hours. More information on meeting times will be presented during project consent process. What will I be asked to do? All participants will be either randomly assigned to a control group or intervention group. All groups will be asked to complete a confidential survey online before the beginning of groups and again after the end of groups. Intervention group participants will also be asked to participate in the DMind program, online for 16 sessions via online zoom session. Will I get paid for participation in this study? Yes! Control group participants will earn up to \$40 (\$20 for pretest and \$20 for posttest). Intervention participants will receive the same payment for pretests and posttests and can receive up to an additional \$40 for participating in the groups!

How do I sign up and who do I contact for more information? Toby M. Mills Email: millsto@umsystem.edu Phone: 573-200-0479 *Please sign up by February 24th at 5:00 PM

MARE Board Training Opportunities - MARE will offer the required Board Training for newly elected or appointed Board members on the following dates and at the noted locations:

MARE Board Training Dates – 2021

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

Friday, May 21, 2021 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, May 22, 2021 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

Friday, June 11, 2021 - (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, June 12, 2021 - (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

Northeast Missouri - Location TBD

Friday, June 11, 2021 - (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, June 12, 2021 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

Friday, June 25, 2021 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, June 26, 2021 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

Friday, July 16, 2021 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, July 17, 2021 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)

Thursday, October 21, 2021 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

Lake Ozark, MO - The Lodge of the Four Seasons (Deadline to register - November 19th!)

Friday, December 10, 2021 (12:00 noon-6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, December 11, 2021 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

To register for these in-person training events, please access the form found on the MARE website or contact Kevin Sandlin at (660) 747-8050 or by email at ksandlin@moare.com.

MARE Scholarship Information

– MARE awarded a total of 43 scholarships last year including 15 - \$1,000.00 scholarships to college juniors/seniors and 28 - \$500.00 scholarships to graduating seniors from MARE member school districts. Proceeds from the annual golf tournament are our primary source of funding for scholarships. Due to the generous support of many of our Associate Members and other donors, we hope to award even more scholarships in 2021. Information has been sent out to the Missouri School Counselors Association (HS Senior Program) and to all Missouri colleges and universities that have a teacher education program. Links to both programs are found below:

[2020-2021 MARE/EdCounsel HS Senior Scholarship Program](#) - **Deadline 3/10/21**

[2020-2021 MARE College Scholarship Program](#) - **Deadline 3/31/21**

11th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament

– The 11th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, July 19th at the beautiful Osage National Golf Course in Lake Ozark, Missouri. Information for this year's event is linked below:

[2021 MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament Flyer](#)

[Golf Tournament Sponsorship Information](#)

[2021 Golf Tournament Registration Form](#)

Please come out and join us this year! We will accept the first 36 teams to register!

NREA News

– For all of the latest news from our national affiliate, please click on these links: [NREA Weekly Update - February 26, 2021](#), [NREA Weekly Update - February 19, 2021](#)

MARE/MO K-8 Fall Conference

– Make plans now to join us for the 2021 MARE/MO K-8 Conference which will be held Wednesday, October 20th through Friday, October 22nd at the Lodge of Four Seasons. Help us reach our goal of 200 attendees!

Missouri Boys State & Missouri Girls State

– MARE is a proud supporter of both of these organizations. Due to the cancellations of these events from last year, MARE will be supporting four (4) candidates for each gathering in 2021. MARE supports (pays sponsorship fees) for candidates from MARE member school districts across the state!

Quote of the Week

A teacher who is attempting to teach without inspiring the pupil with a desire to learn is hammering on cold iron.

- Horace Mann

Professional Development Opportunity through the Stellar Project

Hello! We are recruiting *4th-8th grade teachers* for the STELLAR Project, an exciting **PAID professional development** opportunity through the University of Oregon College of Education. STELLAR is an **online, completely remote PD course** for teaching **argument writing through the visual arts**. The course was designed from the ground up to bring high-quality, evidence-based professional development to teachers in the comfort of their homes.

Our first cohort of teachers had great things to say about STELLAR:

“My students were so excited to complete the lessons! They had great respect for the images. They were able to examine, verbalize, and write about the artwork. I was impressed with their insight. It was a huge success.”

“I led a couple discussions via Zoom. It was very easy to do this online and refer to the strategies in writing class as well as math.”

What will participating teachers get?

- A stipend of \$250-\$550 depending on level of participation
- Free PDUs
- Access to online museum resources

What will participating teachers do?

- If assigned to cohort 1, complete a series of *interactive online learning modules at your own pace (approximately 6 hours between March and April)*.
- If assigned to cohort 2, complete a series of *interactive online learning modules at your own pace in May, June, or beyond*.
- Complete a **pre/post survey**.
- Collect **2 brief surveys and writing samples** from a set of students.

How do I sign up?

- Email us at stellar@uoregon.edu, *OR*
- Visit our website at <https://blogs.uoregon.edu/stellar/> and sign up using the Contact Us form, *OR*
- Call or text Professor Erin Chaparro at 541-514-2398

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Erin Chaparro (echaparr@uoregon.edu; 541-514-2398) Principal Investigator
& the STELLAR Team

MARE Organization Staff

Kevin F. Sandlin -- Cell Phone: (660) 351-0596 -- Email: ksandlin@moare.com
Executive Director

Jerry L Cochran, EdD. -- Cell Phone: (660) 596-3184 -- Email: jcochran@moare.com
Assistant Executive Director

Ray V. Patrick, EdD. -- Cell Phone: (660) 909 – 5118 – Email: rpatrick@moare.com
Associate Director

Missouri Association of Rural Education
710 N College, Suite C

Warrensburg, Missouri 64093

(660) 747-8050

Fax: (660) 747-8160

Website: www.moare.com

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