



MAY 22, 2023

# MARE Focus

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

M.U.S.I.C.

MO. Consultants for Ed.

SOCS

Veregy (CTS)

## 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** – For the third consecutive year, MARE has completed more Superintendent Searches for Missouri public schools than any other agency that provides such in the state. We are proud of this fact and committed to providing a quality, yet affordable search process for your school district. If you plan to retire or leave your district next year, we would be honored to assist in finding your replacement. We appreciate all of those who have given us this opportunity in the past!

**Open Superintendent Searches** – Two current vacancies are posted on our website:

**La Plata R-II Superintendent Search** – Dr. Jerry Cochran is the Search Consultant. He can be reached at (660) 596-3184 or [cochranj115@gmail.com](mailto:cochranj115@gmail.com). **Deadline is June 5<sup>th</sup>!**

**Wellsville-Middletown R-I Superintendent Vacancy** – Contact the district at (573) 684-2428 for more information.

## MOCAAT – What Can You Do For Me?

MOCAAT is a full financial management resource for Missouri school districts. Established in 2020, MOCAAT® prides itself on bringing a new level of service and support of investment planning and deployment for Missouri schools. The MOCAAT team uses their decades of experience in Missouri school budget, finance and investments to manage more than \$2 billion in assets for 160 districts across the state. For support with investments of your reserve funds, tax revenues, state revenues, and bond proceeds please reach out to John Jungmann, [jjungmann@pmanetwork.com](mailto:jjungmann@pmanetwork.com) (417) 228-4148 or Jason Hoffman, [jhoffman@pmanetwork.com](mailto:jhoffman@pmanetwork.com) (573) 212-6258.

## Health Office Orientation Training

TRAINING AVAILABLE FOR NEW SCHOOL NURSES! The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services School Health Team is hosting a training for new school nurses. Health Office Orientation is a FREE 3-day workshop in Jefferson City, MO July 12-14, 2023. This workshop offers an orientation for nurses without prior work experience in schools with an overview of information regarding school nursing practice. RNs, LPNs and new health office staff (working without the benefit of a MD or RN supervisor) are welcome to attend. Seating is limited. For more information and registration, please visit our website under the “Events” tab [here](#).

Please contact [Angie Bulmahn](#) with any questions.

### Angie Bulmahn MSN, RN, NCSN

School Nurse Specialist | Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services  
 Email: [Angie.Bulmahn@health.mo.gov](mailto:Angie.Bulmahn@health.mo.gov) | Phone: 314-877-0220  
 Health.Mo.Gov | [School Health Website](#)

**NREA News** – For all of the latest news from our national affiliate, please click on these links: [NREA Weekly Update - May 12, 2023](#), [NREA Weekly Update - May 19, 2023](#)

## **13<sup>th</sup> Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament**

The 13th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, July 17th at Osage National Golf Course in Lake Ozark, Missouri. **Registration deadline is 7/7/2023!**

Over the past three years, MARE, with support from the key sponsors who support the Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament (Veregy (Formerly CTS Group), StepUP Consulting, UMB Bank, L.J. Hart & Company, MEUHP, Missouri Propane Gas Association, SIC Roofing, Performance Services, Mickes O'Toole, LLC, Missouri Educators Health Group, Forrest T. Jones & Company, Guin Mundorf, LLC, American Fidelity, Tueth Keeney Cooper Mohan & Jackstadt, P.C., LearnSafe & MOCAAT; Hole Sponsors (EdCounsel, LLC, MRTA, MUSIC, Tueth Keeney, P.C., GRP WEGMAN Company, NREA, Hamlin Energy, Reynolds Construction & Commercial Roofing, Central States Bus, Gilmore Bell, Apple Bus, Navitas, Universal Construction, K12itc, Sunshine Dental Associates, Audio Enhancement, MET/Gallagher, Wagner Portrait Group, Bukaty Companies (Jeff Walstrom), Gator Graphics, Integrated Facility Services, Missouri Goodwill Excel) and those who provided prizes and played, has provided fifty-four (54) \$1,000.00 scholarships. We plan to present 20-25 \$1,000.00 scholarships this year alone!

Registration is now open and we will accept the first thirty-six (36) paid teams and commit slots to them. **Our format is different this year, with registration slated from 9:30-11:45 a.m., lunch from 10:45-11:45 a.m. and a shotgun start of 12:00 noon. Flight winners and the prize giveaway will immediately follow the event at approximately 5:00 p.m.** Please access the appropriate forms below to complete and send in to secure your slot. If you cannot support this as a Corporate Sponsor, Team Sponsor or Hole Sponsor but would like to help out, please consider donating gift cards or golf related items (hats, golf balls, tees, gloves, clubs, etc.) so that we can hold down our costs and award more in scholarship prizes. For more information, please contact Kevin Sandlin at (660) 747-8050 or by email at [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com).

[2023 Golf Tournament Flyer](#)

[2023 MARE Golf Tournament Sponsorship Information](#)

[2023 Golf Tournament Registration Form](#)

**\*\*\*\* Golfers needed – If you are interested in participating in the July 17<sup>th</sup> golf tournament, please reach out to me by phone or email. Some of our team sponsors are looking for school personnel to fill out their teams. First come, first served!**

**Roofing Projects** – If you are in need of assistance with upcoming roofing projects, please reach out to one of our MARE Associate Members who provide these services. Having worked with these folks, some directly, I can assure you that you will receive professional service, honest evaluations and fair pricing in regard to your projects.

SIC Midest – Tim Corry, (314) 458-6811, [Tim Corry](#)

Coryell Roofing – Grant Deshon – [Grant Deshon](#)

Reynolds Const. & Com. Roofing – [Brian Mathews](#)

### **Quote of the Week**

**Leaders must be close enough to relate to others, but far enough ahead to motivate them. – John Maxwell**

## **MARE Board Awards Dr. Matthew Bushey Memorial Scholarship**

The MARE Executive Board voted at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 1st to award the Dr. Matthew Bushey Memorial Scholarship Award to Luke Bushey from Dadeville R-II School District. Luke plans to attend John Brown University in Arkansas and major in education following in his father's footsteps. Pictured in the photo below is Luke Bushey, mother Amy Bushey and MARE Executive Director, Kevin Sandlin. We wish Luke the very best as he moves forward toward his education degree!



**Missouri Boys State & Missouri Girls State** – These events are scheduled for June 24-July 1, 2023 at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri. MARE will be sponsoring (paying participation fees) for two candidates from MARE member schools for each gathering this year!

**Member School Districts** – MARE currently lists 410 of the public-school districts in the state as member school districts. **MARE welcomes Willow Springs R-IV, Slater & Sikeston R-6 to membership. Districts indicating plans to join for 2023-2024 include Kingston K-14, Sarcoxie R-II, Lebanon R-III & Fulton 58.** If you are not a MARE member school district, I welcome the opportunity to discuss with you the benefits and the value for your annual \$400.00 or \$500.00 membership dues. To learn more about MARE, please contact me at (660) 747-8050!

## **2023 MARE College Scholarship Recipients – Congratulations!**

### **2023 MARE College Scholarship Award Recipients**

<b><u>Student</u></b>	<b><u>College/University</u></b>
Candace Hilt	Rockhurst University
Brooke Ehlers	Missouri Southern State University
Hannah Buechler	Lincoln University
Riley Funk	Missouri State University – Neosho
Amber Mork	Missouri Southern State University
Lisa Inlow	Missouri State University – WP
Abigail Blansit	Missouri State University – Sprfld.
Jaiden Flora	Northwest Missouri State Univ.
Reese Dodson	Central Methodist University
Molly Phillips	Missouri Southern State University
Michaela Bledsoe	Missouri State University – Sprfld.
Delaney McPheeters	Missouri State University – Sprfld.
Ashlyn Lewis	Missouri Valley College
Kortney Nelson	Central Methodist University
Abby Clawson	Northwest Missouri State Univ.
Konner Gilson	University of Central Missouri
Micha Peckham	Missouri Southern State University
Emily Bohm	Hannibal-LaGrange University
Cadan Kauffman	College of the Ozarks
Nekoda Kimbrough	Missouri Southern State University
Isabelle Smith	Missouri State University – Sprfld.
Gerri Madison	Missouri Western State University
Amber Allen	Missouri State University – Sprfld.

## **2023 MARE/MO K-8 Conference – You Don't Want to Miss It!**

The 2023 MARE/MO K-8 Annual Conference will be held on Wednesday, October 18th through Friday, October 20th at the Lodge of Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, Missouri. We are making plans now to have a great conference. Our conference has grown tremendously over the past five years and we are doing our part to continue to grow this event by providing informative Pre-Conference Sessions, great Small Group Sessions, powerful General Sessions, awesome food and prizes and an Exhibit Hall full of Associate Members and others who support Missouri rural education. Linked below are various forms for this year's event including registration for both individuals and exhibitors, Call for Presentations application and the form to submit a nomination for our Outstanding Rural Education Awards. Please mark your calendars now and make plans to join us for this event! I assure you that you will learn a lot, have a good time and most likely walk away with some lasting memories and possibly a prize or two.

[2023 MARE/MO K-8 Conference Registration](#)

[2023 Exhibitor & Sponsor Registration - Page 1](#)

[2023 Exhibitor & Sponsor Registration - Page 2](#)

[2023 MARE/MO K-8 Conference Presentation Application](#)

[2023 Outstanding Rural Education Awards Nomination Form](#)

## **Why Should My District Consider Joining MARE**

On occasion, I am asked by Superintendents, Board Secretaries or Board Members, "Why should our district join MARE?" Although I am always surprised by this question, I believe that there are a number of valid reasons for districts to join. Below is a brief listing of some of the major reasons:

- 1) MARE Legal Hotline Service – Through partnerships with EdCounsel, Guin Mundorf, Mickes O'Toole and Thomeczek & Brink, districts have access to frontline education attorneys who can assist with various day-to-day questions and issues that arise under certain conditions.
- 2) Scholarship Programs – MARE operates two scholarship programs that since 2017 have provided \$173,500.00 in scholarships to students interested in becoming teachers. In 2022 alone, the HS Senior Scholarship Program, in cooperation with EdCounsel provided thirty (30) \$500.00 scholarships to graduating seniors from MARE member school districts, while the College Scholarship Program provided twenty-three (23) \$1,000.00 scholarships to future Missouri rural school teachers.
- 3) Energy Management Program - Through our partnership with Hamlin Energy, MARE offers participation in our natural gas consortium as well as other opportunities for districts to have professionals review their natural gas or propane gas expenditures to see if money can be saved for the district.
- 4) Assistance with Direct IEP Therapy, Direct IEP Cost Settlement, DESE Local Tax Effort Billback/Public Placement and DESE High Need Fund Programs to Missouri Public Schools through our partnership with Claim Care, Inc. Claim Care has provided unrivaled customer support and services for over 25 years, a decade or longer than any other Medicaid direct billing vendor in the state of Missouri. Claim Care's comprehensive and personalized method of program management not only minimizes the workload for district personnel, but also allows for substantial increase in revenue. We also have a partnership with Innovative Options to provide SDAC assistance. Innovative Options, LLC specializes in providing School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC) "complete" Program Management (essentially, we take the work from your desk to ours). For 18 years, we have been doing SDAC program management in Missouri for 70+ school districts with Superintendents, Special Ed Directors and CFOs.
- 5) Superintendent Searches – MARE provides a quality, yet affordable Superintendent and Building Principal Search Service Program. Over the past three years, MARE has facilitated more Superintendent Searches than any other entity in the state. Search consultants include Dr. Mike Jinks, Dr. Paul Ricker, Dr. Jerry Cochran, Mr. Darryl Pannier and Mrs. Mary Beth Scherer.
- 6) Board Training – MARE is an approved Board Training provider offering both the initial 18.5 hours of mandatory training and annual refresher training as stipulated by Missouri State Statute 162.203. These trainings are conducted in person and held regionally around the state each year. Board trainers include Dr. Margret Anderson, Mr. Leroy Huff and Dr. Ron Wilken.
- 7) State Advocacy – MARE is a member of the School Administrator's Coalition (SAC) with several other educational associations. SAC representatives advocate passionately each year on behalf of Missouri public schools.
- 8) National Advocacy – MARE is a member of the National Rural Education Association which represents the interests of rural public schools in national forums where education issues are decided.
- 9) Discounted products and services – Many of our Associate Members offer discounted or money-saving products and services to our member districts.
- 10) Missouri Boys & Girls State – MARE sponsors students from member districts each year to attend both of these amazing events.

11) MARE Leadership – MARE is led by ten regional school district representatives, two at-large BOE member seats, 1 MO K-8 representative, 1 Higher Education representative and two Advisory Board representatives.

While the list above contains many of the major reasons in support of MARE membership, there are numerous others. I would welcome the opportunity to visit with any district concerning MARE. I can be reached by phone at (660) 747-8050 or by email at [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com). Linked below are some documents for your district to review as you consider the value of MARE membership.

[2022-2023 MARE Membership by County](#)

[MARE Membership Benefits](#)

[MARE Membership Application](#)

[Membership Crosswalk Document](#)

**MARE Board Training Opportunities** - MARE will provide Board Training in 2023 for newly elected or appointed BOE members according to this schedule

## **MARE Board Training Dates – 2023**

### West Central Missouri - Warrensburg, MO – Best Western - (660) 747-3000

- Friday, June 09, 2023 - (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 10, 2023 - (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

### Northeast Missouri - Kirksville, MO - Holiday Inn Express (660) 956-4682

- Friday, June 16, 2023- (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 17, 2023 (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

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

- Friday, June 23, 2023 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 24, 2023 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

- Friday, July 14, 2023 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, July 15, 2023 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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

- Wednesday, October 18, 2023 (11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- Thursday, October 19, 2023 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

### Lake Ozark, MO - The Lodge of the Four Seasons (Deadline to register – 11/19/23

- Friday, December 08, 2023 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, December 09, 2023 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

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)).

## **Rural Schools Mental Health – Grant Opportunity**

Exciting opportunity! Your school or co-op is invited to participate in a study focused on improving the capacity of rural schools to support student emotional and behavioral well-being. Participating schools will be randomly assigned to either receive data reports and consultation versus receiving reports in Spring and consultation the following year.

### **Project Description**

Schools will be **randomly** assigned to two groups: intervention schools and control schools.

<b>2023-2024 (Year 1)</b>	
<b>Intervention schools (Get Now)</b>	<b>Control schools (Get Later)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ \$1500 participation stipend</li> <li>✓ School climate survey and reports</li> <li>✓ Early Intervention System (EIS), a universal social emotional screener and reports</li> <li>✓ EIS intervention hub and professional development</li> <li>✓ Monthly consultation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ \$1000 participation stipend</li> <li>✓ School climate survey and reports</li> <li>✓ Early Intervention System (EIS) universal social emotional screener in Spring)</li> </ul>
<b>2024-2025 (Year 2)</b>	
<b>Intervention schools</b>	<b>Control Schools</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ school climate survey and reports</li> <li>✓ EIS screener and reports</li> <li>✓ EIS intervention hub and professional development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ \$500 participation stipend</li> <li>✓ School climate survey and reports</li> <li>✓ Early Intervention System (EIS) universal social emotional screener and reports</li> <li>✓ EIS intervention hub and professional development</li> <li>✓ Monthly consultation</li> </ul>

**All participating schools will have free access to all materials and tools following participation in year 1.**

### **School Data Collection Requirements**

All participating schools:

- Complete a school climate survey in the fall and spring.
- Complete universal social emotional and behavioral screening in fall and spring (teacher and students)

**Interested?** For more information or questions contact:

### **Lou Ann Tanner-Jones, PhD, NCSP**

Assistant Clinical Professor, Dept. of Educational, School & Counseling Psychology

*Boone County Schools Mental Health Coalition (BSCMHC)*

*National Center for Rural School Mental Health (NCRSMH)*

### **University of Missouri**

Columbia, MO 65211

[tannerjonesl@umsystem.edu](mailto:tannerjonesl@umsystem.edu)

**2023-2024 MARE Membership Invoices** – The membership invoices from MARE will be sent out of our office around June 21<sup>st</sup>. The letter will be addressed to the attention of the Superintendent, but should be shared with your District Bookkeeper or Accounts Payable Department. We appreciate all of those who support our work here at MARE! If you have questions, please reach out to me at (660) 747-8050!

**Open Enrollment** – Thanks to our amazing team of lobbyists, led by Mike Lodewegen and Scott Kimble, Open Enrollment did not pass the Missouri Legislature this year. While this is great news and cause for celebration for all public-school districts, you can rest assured that this issue will re-surface as soon as the legislators return to the Capitol. In fact, it will return most likely with a vengeance and be pushed even harder as the 2024 session progresses. We had 184 districts stand up and take action by passing a Resolution in Opposition to Open Enrollment this year. We believe that this information was helpful to our team at the Capitol. We also believe that legislators will want this information as they consider the issue for next session. I am asking that you lead the charge in your district and ask your BOE to consider the attached resolution along with the accompanying documents below. More information will be shared throughout the summer on how Open Enrollment will impact your district regarding Special Education, Transportation, Tracking/Recording, etc. Please consider taking this action during the summer months, as typically there are fewer items on the BOE meeting agenda and time can be dedicated to this discussion. If you pass the resolution, please scan and email me or Paul Ziegler, Kenny Southwick or Pam Hedgpeth this information for our records. Also, please be prepared to send a copy to all of your legislators when the session kicks off! Working together we can defeat this issue in our great state!

[Open Enrollment Resolution in Opposition](#)

[Open Enrollment Talking Points](#)

### **MARE Organization Staff**

Kevin F. Sandlin -- Cell Phone: (660) 351-0596 -- Email: [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com)

Executive Director

Jerry L Cochran, EdD. -- Cell Phone: (660) 596-3184 -- Email: [jcochran@moare.com](mailto:jcochran@moare.com)

Assistant Executive Director

Ray V. Patrick, EdD. – Cell Phone: (660) 909 – 5118 – Email: [rpatrick@moare.com](mailto:rpatrick@moare.com)

Associate Director

Missouri Association of Rural Education

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Warrensburg, Missouri 64093

(660) 747-8050

Fax: (660) 747-8160

Website: [www.moare.com](http://www.moare.com)

**If you are the intended recipient but do not wish to receive communication through this medium, please notify the sender immediately.**