



MARE Focus

NOVEMBER 24, 2023

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

Superintendent Search – Ralls Co. R-II – Dr. Paul Ricker is the Search Consultant. Paul can be reached at (573) 365-4703 or (314) 614-5309 or at paulricker1@charter.net. **Closing (11/30/23)!**

Assistant Superintendent Searches (2) – Sullivan – Dr. Michael Jinks is the Search Consultant. **Mike** can be reached at (660) 441-7473 or at 19mj46@charter.net. **Closing (11/27/23)!**

Superintendent Search – St. Clair R-XIII – Mary Beth Scherer is the Search Consultant. Mary Beth may be reached at (660) 281-7678 or at mbscherer@ucmo.edu. **Closing (1/11/24)!**

Superintendent Search – Spokane R-VII – Dr. Jerry Cochran is the Search Consultant. Jerry can be reached at (660) 596-3184 or at cochranj115@gmail.com. **Closing (12/1/23)!**

Closed Searches – South Holt Co. R-I, Marion Co. R-II, North Andrew R-VI, La Plata R-II, Spring Bluff R-XV, Scott City R-I, Shelby Co. R-IV & Central R-III!

***** More Searches to be Posted Soon!**

All Vacancy Announcements & Applications – www.moare.com!

Opportunity to Help One of our Own – Wade Schroeder

Please consider this opportunity to help one of our own!

I thought you might be interested in supporting this GoFundMe, <https://gofund.me/84af91be>.

Even a small donation could help Natalie Burns reach their fundraising goal. And if you can't make a donation, it would be great if you could share the fundraiser to help spread the word.

Thanks for taking a look!

Not sure it copied but this is on Wade Schroeder who has been battling cancer.

MARE Scholarship Information

MARE awarded a total of 52 scholarships last year including 22 - \$1,000.00 scholarships to college juniors/seniors, 29 - \$500.00 scholarships to graduating seniors from MARE member school districts and a \$2,500.00 scholarship in memory of Dr. Matt Bushey. 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 will be awarding additional scholarships and increasing the HS Scholarship Awards to \$750.00 during 2024! **(\$211,500.00 awarded!)**

[2023 HS Senior Scholarship Guidelines & Application](#)

[2023 MARE College Scholarship Guidelines & Application](#)

Happy Holidays from MARE!

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is Available Statewide in Missouri!



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by delivering high-quality, age-appropriate books each month to the homes of registered children under age 5, at no cost to the family.

The Missouri Imagination Library was made possible by legislation (Section 178.694 RSMo) that identifies school districts as the local partner for this initiative. Full funding was included in DESE's Fiscal Year 2024 budget to establish and administer Dolly Parton's Imagination Library for all children in Missouri age 0-5.

There is no cost to schools for the books or the postage to deliver them.

Sign up your child for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

MARE/MO K-8 Fall Conference – Special thanks to all of those who attended and supported the 2023 MARE/MO K-8 Conference on October 18-20, 2023! We had an awesome conference! Overall, we had 279 attendees, 85 Exhibitor Booths (200 vendor representatives), and 77 presenters. **Huge thanks to our amazing sponsors listed below:**

Platinum Level (\$2,000.00) – Claim Care, Inc., Coryell Roofing, EdCounsel, LLC, FTJ/MEUHP, iCEV, Mike Keith Insurance, MOCAAT & Veregy

Gold Level (\$1,500.00) – Hirefox, LLC, L.J. Hart & Company, Penmac Education Staffing, Performance Services, SIC Midwest & Software Unlimited

Silver Level (\$1,000.00) – Curriculum Associates, Family Heritage, Fox Blocks by Airlite Plastics, GRP WEGMAN, Guin Mundorf, LLC, Haddock Education Technologies, Mickes O'Toole, LLC, Missouri Educator's Trust, Navitas, Raptor Technologies, Renaissance Learning, Inc., Reynolds Construction & Roofing, Schneider Electric, STEP Up, Stifel, Trane U.S. Inc., Tueth Keeney Cooper Mohan & Jackstadt, P.C., University of Central Missouri & Wagner Portrait Group

Bronze Level (\$600.00) – Audio Acoustics, Capstone Insurors (Acrisure Partner), Center for Rural Education (MSU), Gilmore & Bell, P.C., Inter-State Studio, McKinstry, Midwest Bus Sales, Inc., Midwest Transit Equipment, Opa! Food Management & rootEd Missouri

Next year's conference is scheduled on October 16-18, 2024 at the Lodge of Four Seasons! Put this on your calendar now and join us as we learn and grow together!

MARE/MO K-8 recognized the following individuals during the Conference Awards Luncheon on October 19, 2023 - (Congratulations to all!)

Outstanding Rural Support Staff Member – Ashley Steffens, Altenburg #48
Outstanding Rural Teacher Award – Lisa Pitts, Spokane R-VII
Outstanding Rural Administrator Award – Dr. Karl Janson, Cabool R-IV
Outstanding Rural School District Award – Humansville R-IV
MO K-8 Administrator of the Year – Jenny Ulrich, Lonedell R-14
MARE/MO K-8 Friend of Rural Education – Dr. Margret (Maggie) Anderson

MOCAAT – What Can You Do For Me?

MOCAAT® | Local Values. Trusted Advantage.

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 \$2.5 billion in assets across 170+ member districts (as of June 30, 2023). 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:



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PMA Financial Network

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PMA Financial Network

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Save the Date - The 14th Annual MARE Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, July 15th at Osage National Golf Course in Lake Ozark, Missouri. We will accept the first 36 paid teams for this event. Last year's event raised over \$34,300.00 to be earmarked for scholarships for students interested in teaching in rural Missouri schools.

Plan now to join us!

Brain Injury Association Scholarship Opportunity

Educational Scholarships Available Deadline: December 15, 2023

The Brain Injury Association of Missouri (BIA-MO) is pleased to offer educational scholarships for survivors of brain injury to pursue post-secondary education.

Please share this information with students who may qualify.

BIA-MO Educational Scholarships Overview

All BIA-MO Educational Scholarships are only available for survivors of brain injury to pursue post-secondary education. Educational Institutions include two-year colleges, four-year colleges or universities, and vocational and trade schools.

Scholarship funding can only be used for expenses directly related to post-secondary education. Allowable expenses include tuition, room and board, books, required class material such as workbooks, specialized tools, etc. Scholarship amount is \$750 per award.

Available Scholarships - with one application

- 21-14 Concussion Awareness Foundation Educational Scholarship
- Griggs Injury Law Educational Scholarship
- Linda Hobbs Arts Education Scholarship
- LifeStreams Rehabilitation Educational Scholarship
- Ransin Injury Law Educational Scholarship
- SSM Health Rehabilitation Network Educational Scholarship
- Jim and Lori Winter Scholarship

BIA-MO Scholarship Application Cover Sheet and Supporting Material

Deadline: December 15, 2023

[Apply Online](#) or [Download Application](#)

Submit application to:

Mail: Brain Injury Association of Missouri, Inc.
2265 Schuetz Road
Saint Louis, MO 63146-3409

Fax: (314) 426-3290 **Email:** info@biamo.org **Online:** [Scholarship Application](#)

[NREA News](#) - For all of the latest news from our national affiliate, please click on these links: **Check out the MARE website at www.moare.com for the latest updates!**

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

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, or go online (www.moare.com).

Quote of the Week

“Upon the subject of education ... I can only say that I view it as the most important subject which we as a people may be engaged in.” – Abraham Lincoln

Preparing for the Upcoming Fight for Public Education

The fight will continue in Jefferson City regarding Open Enrollment. It is anticipated that legislation similar to HB 253 will be on the floor of the House very early in the session. It is time again for public Missouri school districts to stand up and make their voices heard regarding this matter. Please review previous information that has been sent out, including the information contained in the links below and take action. Working together, we can defeat this legislation but it is going to take all of us! Please join the fight! If your district has passed a resolution in opposition, please share that with your respective legislators and share a copy of this with your local or regional newspaper!

[HB 253 Open Enrollment](#)
[Open Enrollment - Board Resolution in Opposition](#)
[Open Enrollment - Talking Points](#)

More updated information will be forthcoming. **Please make this a priority issue for your BOE at your November, December, January or February board meeting. Please provide me with an electronic copy of your resolution once approved by your BOE!**

Missouri Dept. of Mental Health – PREPaRE!

The MO Dept. of Mental Health Office of Disaster Services' is hosting PREPaRE trainings, and we are asking you to share these upcoming trainings to help get the word out. We have been hosting these trainings around the state in order to assist schools with planning, preparation and response for various types of crisis events including suicides, school violence/mass violence, grief and loss of students/staff, etc. We started scheduling these events after a school shooting in Missouri last October and after talking with school leadership after the Parkland shooting. One lesson learned from several events around the country was that this training was needed ahead of time. Our hope is that we can get school counselors, leadership, SROs, social workers, etc. to attend and bring the information back to the schools. Attached is the flyer on the event and how to register for the free training. Upcoming events are in Kirksville, Joplin and Kansas City. We also have one coming to Cape Girardeau next year and will send that flyer in the near future.

You can find additional information on PREPaRE at this website. About PREPaRE

(nasponline.org)<<https://www.nasponline.org/professional-development/prepare-training-curriculum/about-prepare>>

Community Conversations on Youth Vaping

For the first time in Missouri, more high school students vaped (19%) than adults smoked (17%) in 2021.

As part of the effort to protect our current and future generations from the toll of tobacco and e-cigarettes, local lead agencies will be hosting in-person Community Conversations across Missouri. We encourage adults and youth to attend these interactive talks to share concerns and ideas about ways to work together to prevent and reduce youth vaping. We would be pleased for you to join us for these one-hour small group conversations. Details for each of the six Community Conversation locations can be found at the link below. You will have the opportunity to share your perspective about the impact of youth vaping on your community and any ideas and feedback on solutions to end the youth vaping epidemic. There will be a conversation for youth (ages 13-18) and a conversation for parents and adults at each location. Snacks will be provided, and there will be drawings for gift cards.

We strongly encourage you and anyone planning to attend to learn more and register at <http://www.vapetalkmo.com/>.

Board Training Schedule for 2024 – We are in the process of finalizing our Board Training Schedule for 2024. Information will be posted and shared soon! We will have at least seven (7) two-day training events scheduled around the state in locations including Poplar Bluff, Bolivar, Lake Ozark, Warrensburg, Kirksville, Maryville!

MARE Board Elections for 2024 – MARE will be electing Regional Executive Board Members in Regions B, D, F, H and J this year. In addition, one member from a MARE member school district's BOE and a MO K-8 Representative will be appointed by the current MARE Board. More information on this will be shared soon! Due to retirements, we are looking for a Region B and Region H MARE Board Representative. If interested, please let Dr. Cochran or myself know.

MARE Organization Staff

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