



# MARE Focus

NOVEMBER 3, 2023

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

## ENDORSEMENTS

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- Claim Care, Inc.
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- Mike Keith Insurance
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- 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:

**Deputy Superintendent Search – Spring Bluff R-XV** – Mr. Darryl Pannier is the Search Consultant. Darryl can be reached at (573) 803-9008 or at [darrylpannier@yahoo.com](mailto:darrylpannier@yahoo.com). **Closing (11/15/23)!**

**Superintendent Search – South Holt Co. R-I** - Dr. Mike Jinks is the Search Consultant. Mike can be reached at (660) 441-7473 or at [19mj46@charter.net](mailto:19mj46@charter.net). **Closing (11/03/23)!**

**Superintendent Search – Shelby Co. R-IV** – Dr. Jerry Cochran is the Search Consultant. Jerry can be reached at (660) 596-3184 or at [cochranj115@gmail.com](mailto:cochranj115@gmail.com). **Closing (11/17/23)!**

**Superintendent Search – La Plata R-II** - Dr. Jerry Cochran is the Search Consultant. Jerry can be reached at (660) 596-3184 or at [cochranj115@gmail.com](mailto:cochranj115@gmail.com). **Closing (11/10/23)!**

**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](mailto:paulricker1@charter.net). **Closing (11/30/23)!**

**Superintendent Search – Marion Co. R-II** – Mary Beth Scherer is the Search Consultant. Mary Beth can be reached at (660) 281-7678 or at [mbscherer@ucmo.edu](mailto:mbscherer@ucmo.edu). **Closing (11/06/23)!**

**Superintendent Search – North Andrew R-VI** – Dr. Mike Jinks is the Search Consultant. Mike can be reached at (660) 441-7473 or at [19mj46@charter.net](mailto:19mj46@charter.net). **Closing (11/10/23)!**

**Superintendent Search – Scott City R-I** – Mr. Darryl Pannier is the Search Consultant. Darryl can be reached by phone at (573) 803-9008 or at [darrylpannier@yahoo.com](mailto:darrylpannier@yahoo.com). **Closing (11/24/23)!**

**Associate Superintendent Search – Central R-III** – Mr. Darryl Pannier is the Search Consultant. Darryl can be reached by phone at (573) 803-9008 or at [darrylpannier@yahoo.com](mailto:darrylpannier@yahoo.com). **Closing (11/10/23)!**

**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](mailto: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](mailto:mbscherer@ucmo.edu). **Closing (11/11/24)!**

**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](mailto:cochranj115@gmail.com). **Closing (12/1/23)!**

**All Vacancy Announcements & Applications – [www.moare.com](http://www.moare.com)!**

**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, Opaa! 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.

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**John Jungmann**  
Vice-President  
Investment Services  
PMA Financial Network

**(417) 228-4148**

[jjungmann@pmanetwork.com](mailto:jjungmann@pmanetwork.com)



**Jason Hoffman**  
Vice-President  
Investment Services  
PMA Financial Network

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**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!)**

**\*\*\* Information will be posted and shared soon regarding both programs!**

**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](mailto:info@biamo.org) **Online:** [Scholarship Application](#)

**NREA News** - For all of the latest news from our national affiliate, please click on these links: [October 13, 2023 NREA Weekly Update](#), [October 20, 2023 NREA Weekly Update](#), [October 27, 2023 NREA Weekly Update](#)

**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](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com), or go online ([www.moare.com](http://www.moare.com)).

### **Quote of the Week**

**“A good education can change anyone. A good teacher can change everything!” Unknown**

### **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/>.

## **SB 190 – Property Tax Credit Information – Provided by Kim Cranston, Executive Director of MOASBO**

### **Frequently Asked Questions SB 190 – Property Tax Credit**

(This is a compilation of information from a variety of mass media sources and professional school associations. It is not an exhaustive or comprehensive summary or explanation of the property tax credit in SB 190.)

#### **What is SB 190?**

SB 190, was sponsored by Senator Tony Luetkemeyer. This bill, which Gov. Parson signed earlier in July, modifies provisions relating to the taxation of seniors. It has two main provisions, one related to property tax credits and one that deals with retirement benefits from income tax deduction.

## **What does the property tax credit do?**

It allows counties to provide a tax credit to seniors:

- Who are eligible for Social Security
- Own their home, use it as their primary resident and are required to make tax payments on that home.

Eligible seniors would be exempt from increases in the amount of property taxes they owe.

## **What about taxpayers who don't pay into Social Security? Are they eligible for the property tax credit?**

Good question.

- The language of the bill states "Eligible taxpayers are defined as residents who are eligible for Social Security retirement benefits." Some people interpret this to mean that people such as full-time teachers and railroad workers, who are exempt from Social Security, are not eligible.
- Others interpret the language to mean taxpayers are eligible if they meet the minimum age requirement (62) for Social Security benefits.

## **What is the process for taxpayers to follow to know if they're eligible for the property tax credit?**

It is up to the counties to determine the process they will use.

## **How do taxpayers get the property tax credit?**

It depends on how their county chooses to deliver the benefit. Counties will control how the credit is provided.

Counties could choose to:

- Apply it upfront to a tax bill
- Apply the credit the follow year
- Have the taxpayer pay the full amount and send them a check later

## **How will this be put into place?**

The plan can be put into place by a county in one of two ways:

- An ordinance passed by the county council
- By voter approval. Approval from a simple majority of voters would enact the measure. To get the measure on the ballot, supporters must:

Gather 5% of the votes cast in 2020 gubernatorial election; 5% of the votes each one of the county's districts

Deliver the signatures to the election authority at least 60 days before the general election date, which can fall in April, August or November. Signatures would have to be verified.

## **Are there other programs in Missouri that give tax breaks to senior citizens?**

The "circuit breaker" program is designed to help seniors and people with disabilities afford property tax or rent. However, the eligibility requirements are strict and haven't been updated since 2008.

## **Can taxpayers still appeal their assessments under the new law?**

Yes. The law doesn't change the way the county assessor values or calculate real estate. The county assessor would assess the value according to Missouri law and taxpayers would still receive the same assessment notices. The county Collector of Revenue would factor in the freeze and calculate the amount of taxes an eligible homeowner must pay.

## **What about the Hancock Amendment? How does it work with property tax credit?**

This amendment provides for local governments to recoup decreased revenue by increasing tax



levies. BUT, with SB 190, counties would have to report the tax credit as revenue collected, meaning they couldn't roll up their tax levies to make up for the lost revenue. While school districts will still be able to roll up their levies according to the latest CPI or 5%, whichever is less, that increase likely won't cover the full amount of lost revenue.

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**SB 190  
PROPERTY TAX CREDIT**

This act authorizes a county to grant a property tax credit to eligible taxpayers residing in such county, provided such county has adopted an ordinance authorizing such credit, or a petition in support of such credit is delivered to the governing body of the county and is subsequently submitted to and approved by the voters, as described in the act.

Eligible taxpayers are defined as residents who: 1) are eligible for Social Security retirement benefits; 2) are the owner of record of or have a legal or equitable interest in a homestead; and 3) are liable for the payment of real property taxes on such homestead.

The amount of the property tax credit shall be equal to the difference between the real property tax liability on the homestead in a given year minus the real property tax liability on such homestead in the year in which the taxpayer became an eligible taxpayer.

A credit granted pursuant to this act shall be applied when calculating the eligible taxpayer's property tax liability for the tax year. The amount of the credit shall be noted on the statement of tax due sent to the eligible taxpayer by the county collector.

The amount of property tax credits authorized by a county pursuant to this act shall be considered tax revenue actually received by the county for the purposes of calculating property tax levies. (Section 137.1050)

This provision is identical to a provision in HCS/SB 247 (2023) and is substantially similar to SB 715 (2022) and to a provision in SS/SCS/SB 133 (2023), as amended, SS/SB 540 (2023), as amended, and SS#2/SCS/SB 649 (2022).

**RETIREMENT BENEFITS INCOME TAX DEDUCTION**

Current law allows taxpayers with certain filing status and adjusted gross income below certain thresholds to deduct 100% of certain retirement and Social Security benefits from the taxpayer's Missouri adjusted gross income, with a reduced deduction as the taxpayer's adjusted gross income increases. For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, this act allows the maximum deduction to all taxpayers regardless of filing status or adjusted gross income. (Sections 143.124 and 143.125)

These provisions are identical to SB 448 (2023), SB 241 (2023), HB 662 (2023), HB 1206 (2023), SB 871 (2022), HB 2853 (2022), SB 157 (2021), SB 847 (2020), and HB 1725 (2020), and to provisions in HCS/SB 247 (2023), and are substantially similar to SB 585 (2023), HB 156 (2023), and HB 456 (2023), and to provisions in HCS/SS#3/SCS/SB 131 (2023).

**MARE Organization Staff**

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