



OCTOBER 7, 2025

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

MARE Focus

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

MO. Consult. For
Ed.

MOCAAT

M.U.S.I.C.

SOCS

Veregy

MARE PARTNERSHIPS

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

MISSOURI
ADMIN. JOB
POSTING

Superintendent Search Program – One of the many services that MARE provides is a quality, yet affordable Superintendent Search Program. If you are retiring this year or making plans to move, we would welcome the opportunity to work with your district to find the next leader. Contact Kevin Sandlin, MARE Executive Director, at (660) 747-8050 or by email at ksandlin@moare.com for more information.

Chaffee R-II Superintendent Search – Mrs. Mary Beth Scherer is the search consultant. She can be reached at (660) 282-7678 or mbscherer@ucmo.edu. (10/17/2025)

Maryville R-II Superintendent Search – Dr. Mike Jinks is the search consultant. He can be reached at (660) 441-7473 or 10mj46@charter.net. (10/17/2025)

Morgan Co. R-I Superintendent Search – Dr. Jamie Burkhart is the search consultant. She can be reached at (660) 525-0952 or janiebeth.burkhart@gmail.com. (10/31/2025)

Northeast Randolph Co. R-IV Superintendent Search – Dr. Jerry Cochran is the search consultant. He can be reached at (660) 596-3184 or cochranj115@gmail.com. (11/3/2025)

Santa Fe R-X Superintendent Search – Dr. Margret Anderson is the search consultant. She can be reached at (816) 898-0005 or mg2.anderson@gmail.com. (10/17/2025)

Pettis Co. R-V Superintendent Search – Dr. Jamie Burkhart is the search consultant. She can be reached at (660) 525-0952 or janiebeth.burkhart@gmail.com. (11/7/2025) - Posting Soon!

Closed Searches - Altenburg #48, Kirbyville R-VI

Save the Date – The 2025 MARE/MO K-8 Conference will be held on October 22-24, 2025 at the Lodge of Four Seasons. Plans are underway to make this our biggest and best ever. Please block this on your calendar now and make plans to join us! I promise you will have a great time and learn a lot! Our goal this year is 325 in attendance! Click on the links below for additional, detailed information:

[2025 Conference Registration Form](#)

[2025 Conference Planner at a Glance](#)

[2025 Conference General Session Descriptions](#)

[2025 Conference Small Group Session Descriptions](#)

[iCEV Flyer & Link for Conference Pre-Session on CTE Certification](#)

Here is the booking link for conference room reservations.

- Group Direct Booking Link- No login/Attendee Code needed:**
Booking Engine 4.0 URL: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/17336?groupID=4902386>

Do You Feel the Power of Rural Education?

Foundation Formula Modernization Task Force – The School Modernization Task Force is now conducting Working Group meetings until early December. The meetings will be livestreamed. It is vitally important that school leaders, BOE members, community patrons and those who support public schools tune in to these meetings or listen to the recordings to stay informed. The group will reconvene with scheduled Task Force meetings in January. For more information on this work, please check out the website at this link: [Missouri School Funding Modernization Task Force](#).

Open Enrollment Appeal – Open Enrollment was held at bay again this past session. We are thankful for all of those districts who have passed a BOE Resolution in opposition to Open Enrollment. The list has grown (attached) and now sits at 259 school districts opposed, impacting 454,600 student lives in Missouri. The list has been noticed by various legislators and it has had an impact! We are appealing to the other 257 or so public-school districts to take action and pass the attached resolution in opposition. Our hope is that if the number continues to grow, legislators will have to seriously consider the issue before casting a vote when the issue comes up again in the 2026 session. Thanks to Dr. Chris Gaines at EdPlus, Dr. Kenny Southwick with CSDGKC, and Dr. Pam Hedgpeth with GOCSO for their efforts in spreading the word. Thanks also to our many educational associations for their support in this endeavor and for sharing information with their respective memberships. **Let's do our part to keep this issue as a focused priority so that we can defeat it again in 2026!** If you have questions, please reach out to me at ksandlin@moare.com or (660) 747-8050!
[List of Districts Opposed to Open Enrollment](#)
[Open Enrollment Board Resolution](#)

Welcome New Associate Members – Since July of 2025, the following organizations have been added as MARE Associate Members: **balanceHQ, Hoener Architects, LLC, Inclusive Leadership Lab, Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring, Kummer Center for STEM, Sonus Benefits, Denovo Construction Solutions, Kids Read Now, Federal Education Consulting Group, Interpres Building Solutions, Navigate Building Solutions, CESO Communications, Core360 Benefits Group, Coalter Insurance Group & Cariina**. Please watch for upcoming postings on the MARE website and in new MARE Focus articles. We greatly appreciate these businesses joining the MARE family!

MARE Board Training Calendar for 2025

MARE Board Training Dates – 2025

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

- **Wednesday, October 22, 2025 (11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)**
- **Thursday, October 23, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)**

Lake Ozark, MO - The Lodge of the Four Seasons

- **Friday, December 5, 2025 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)**
- **Saturday, December 6, 2025 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)**

***** Please share this information with any new Board member who has not completed the 18.5 hours of required training! MARE is an approved Board Training provider!**

Drone Academy Workshop

Also, here's the website: <https://topdroneacademy.weebly.com/>.



TOP DRONE ACADEMY
MISSOURI

2025
November 17 & 18

Top Drone Academy Conference

Build Career Pathways with
Drone Technology

Explore high-demand career pathways with
professionals in drone piloting, commercial
operations, and industry applications.

Cost – \$110.00 for Both Days

Open to Educators, Secondary & Postsecondary
Students, and Drone Enthusiasts

Missouri
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY
EDUCATION

Top Drone Academy
Held at Old Kinderhook Resort
Camdenton, MO

For More Information
Click Here

Aaron Paneck, Apaneck@depcolle.com
Linda Stinson Linda.Stinson@dese.mo.gov
Byekwaso.Gilbert@dese.mo.gov
Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
<https://topdroneacademy.weebly.com/>

MOCAAT – What Can You Do for Me?



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 nearly \$4 billion in assets for over 260 Missouri Participants, including school districts (as of March 31, 2025).

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:

		
John Jungmann Vice-President Investment Services	Jason Hoffman Vice-President Investment Services	Paul Ziegler Coordinator, Sales & Relationship Manager
(417) 228-4148 jjungmann@pmanetwork.com	(573) 212-6258 jhoffman@pmanetwork.com	(417) 387-6005 pziegler@pmanetwork.com

Eduthings Platform

We're excited to offer access to **Eduthings** a powerful platform that transforms how you manage and report CTE data.

Eduthings eliminates the need for juggling multiple spreadsheets by automating key processes like **student CTE classification**, **data tracking**, and **report generation**. It takes your data from simple reporting to **meaningful analysis**, helping you make informed decisions with confidence.

As part of this opportunity, you'll receive **access to Eduthings until June 2027—for the price of just one year**. That's **two June Core data reports** plus streamlined reporting, real-time insights, and time-saving automation.

Eduthings Key Benefits:

-  No more spreadsheets—automated data management
-  Accurate student classification and reporting
-  Real-time insights for better planning
-  Compliance support for state and federal requirements
-  Time-saving tools that reduce manual entry and errors



Want to see it in action?

Email us by November 1 to schedule a personalized demo and discover how **Eduthings** can simplify your workflow and receive a free gift. Use the links below to schedule.

Dr. Calee McElwain
Territory Manager

Company | 800.922.9965
Direct | 660.200.5041

[**Schedule a Meeting »**](#)

2025-2026 Missouri School Directory - Each MARE member school district will receive one free copy. If you pre-ordered extra copies through MARE, we will have those to deliver as well. We will start delivering these the week of October 6-10th! We will also have these at the MARE/MO K-8 Conference, October 22nd through October 24th!

Quote of the Week

***Life takes its own turns, makes its own demands,
writes its own story, and along the way, we start to
realize we are not the author.”***

– George W. Bush

Learning Blade Corner

Did you know October is Manufacturing Month in the U.S.?

This month shines a spotlight on the innovation, creativity, and career opportunities manufacturing brings to our world.

[Learning Blade](#) helps students explore these exciting careers through hands-on, career-connected missions and lessons like:

- **Beneath the Waves, Building Submarines:**
 - *Safety in Metalworking*
 - *Wonderful World of Welding*
 - *Powering the Deep*
- **Car Manufacturing:**
 - *Assemble Something Different*
 - *Meeting Demand*
 - *Communication in Manufacturing*
- **Lightweight Aircraft:**
 - *Quality Assurance*
 - *The Cost of Design*
 - *Modern Machining Technology*



Kick off Manufacturing Month by inspiring students to imagine their future in manufacturing!

Explore these missions in Learning Blade and sign up for your **FREE** account: LearningBlade.com/States

Tobacco Prevention Resources

Please join the American Lung Association on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, from 3-4pm Eastern (2-3pm Central) for a free webinar on the impact of nicotine on youth mental health. This webinar will explore the impact of vaping and tobacco products on youth mental health. The current youth tobacco and mental health landscape will be reviewed, including statistics, key concepts, and implications. Next steps and ways to address tobacco use among youth will be discussed. Resources for youth, youth-serving providers, and parents will be shared with attendees.

Please share the attached flyer with those who might be interested and [register here!](#)

For additional information, contact Rachel Sanford at Rachel.Sanford@Lung.org.

Thank you,
Christy

Christy Inskip, MPH, CHES® | Youth Tobacco Use P

Tobacco Prevention and Control Program

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

Email: christy.inskip@health.mo.gov | Phone: 573-526-1880
health.mo.gov/living/wellness/tobacco/smokingandtobacco

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