



# MARE Focus

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

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

## ENDORSEMENTS

- American Fidelity Assurance Co.
- Benefits 360 LLC
- 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: ED COUNSEL, GUIN MUNDORF, MICKES O'TOOLE, TUETH KEENEY
- EDPLUS
- AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE
- GIRLS STATE
- MISSOURI ADMIN. JOB POSTING

**MARE Superintendent Searches** – 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 [ksandlin@moare.com](mailto:ksandlin@moare.com) for more information.

**\*\*\* Check our website soon for anticipated MARE facilitated Superintendent Searches!!!**

**2020 MARE/MO K-8 Conference** - Scheduled on October 21-23, 2020 at the Lodge of Four Seasons. **Please make plans now to attend this growing event!** We will have five legal sessions, a Legal Panel, presentations from Dr. Margie Vandeven, Dr. Kari Monsees, Dr. Chris Neale, Dr. Paul Katnik, Dr. Jim Masters, Mrs. Debra Clink, Misty Grandel, Scott Kimble, Steve Yoakum, "Outstanding Rural Awards" Luncheon, two receptions, great food, vendor hall, and many other opportunities to grow, learn and collaborate.

**Please access the links below for specific conference items:**

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

**[2020 Conference Planner at a Glance](#)**

**[Outstanding Rural Education Awards Information](#)**

**[Exhibitor Registration Form - Page 1](#)**

**[Exhibitor Registration Form - Page 2](#)**

**\*\* Deadline to submit nominations for the Outstanding Rural Education Awards is Wednesday, September 30th!**

## **MARE Welcomes MO DNR Division of Energy as Associate**

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Division of Energy provides low interest financing for the installation of energy efficiency improvements to K-12 school facilities through the Energy Loan Program (ELP). Loan recipients repay the loan with energy savings generated as a result of implementing energy-efficiency projects. Benefits to recipients include, but are not limited to:

- Reduced energy costs and increased comfort of building occupants.
- Loan financing frees up tax dollars that recipients can use for essential services or other capital improvements.
- An ELP loan is not defined as debt and therefore does not count against debt limits or require a public vote or bond issuance.

Examples of eligible loan activities include:

- High efficiency lighting fixtures and lamps.
- Occupancy sensors.

- High efficiency heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems to include geothermal.
- Renewable energy systems to include solar arrays.
- Energy efficient pumps and compressors.
- Building shell improvements such as insulation and other infiltration measures.
- Other measures that reduce energy use and cost.

For more information, please contact Rob Mock at 573-751-5955 or [rob.mock@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:rob.mock@dnr.mo.gov), Dan Dahler at -573-522-3371 or [daniel.dahler@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:daniel.dahler@dnr.mo.gov), or Tracy Parker at 573-526-9544 or [tracy.parker@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:tracy.parker@dnr.mo.gov).

## **Breakfast After the Bell Grant Program**

Hi all,

I wanted to make sure you're aware of a grant opportunity for school districts in Missouri. **Funding is available through the General Mills Foundation to support schools transitioning to a Breakfast After the Bell model for their School Breakfast Program (SBP). The grant is \$8,000 per school to start universal, free breakfast after the bell programs.** Attached is a one-pager with more details about the grant and a factsheet outlining the three Breakfast After the Bell models.

The eligibility requirements for the grant are fairly flexible as long as the participating school is serving universal meals through a Breakfast After the Bell (BATB) model. I know many schools have already transitioned to BATB because it supports social distancing practices. Schools who have adopted BATB this year are eligible for the grant.

If you know of any schools/school districts that would be interested in applying, please let me know. The grant application is straightforward and I'm happy to help with the process.

Thanks for all you do!

Take care,  
Sarah

[School Breakfast Expansion Grant](#)  
[Let's Talk About School Breakfast](#)

**Sarah Ritter, MSW** (she/her)  
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**Legal Articles** - Please check out our website for legal articles shared by our partners at EdCounsel, Mickes O'Toole, Guin Mundorf and Tueth Keeney!

**MARE Board Training Program Update** - Please note the scheduled training opportunities below:

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

- Wednesday, October 21, 2020 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Thursday, October 22, 2020 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

**Unionville, MO (Putnam Co. R-I) - 803 South 20th Street**

- Friday, November 6, 2020 (12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, November 7, 2020 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

**\*\*\*PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ANY NEW BOARD MEMBER(S) NEEDING THE EIGHTEEN AND ONE-HALF (18.5) HOURS OF REQUIRED TRAINING.**

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)) and complete the electronic form found under Board Training.

**Dates and locations may change due to unforeseen circumstances!!!**

**Board Refresher Training - New Video**- A link to the new video was sent to all MARE member school district Superintendents last Tuesday, September 8th. If you did not receive this email with the information on how to access and share the video link, please contact me. Special thanks to our partners at EdCounsel, LLC for producing this video for us!

**MO PERC Announces Zero-Interest Propane Bus Financing**

**MOPERC Announces Zero-Interest Propane School Bus Financing Plan**

**Jefferson City, Missouri, 24, 2020** – The Missouri Propane Education & Research Council (MOPERC) recently announced a zero-interest propane bus financing plan. The innovative new program is available for school districts purchasing propane buses that replace older diesel bus units in the state of Missouri.

MOPERC will cover 100% of the interest cost on up to \$300,000 in lease purchase financing obtained through Central Bank for new, qualified propane buses replacing older diesel units. School districts are eligible to finance up to four new buses each year through this zero-interest financing program.

The rollout of MOPERC's zero-interest propane bus financing plan comes at a great time for school districts, as budgets and funding for education are being challenged by reduced state reimbursement. Propane buses offer school districts many opportunities to save money and be efficient with budgets, effectively allocating funding designated for transportation directly into education.

For more information, please visit [propanemissouri.com](http://propanemissouri.com)

**NREA News** - For all of the latest news from our national affiliate, please click on this link: [NREA News](#)

## **Quote of the Week**

**"A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go, but ought to be." – Rosalynn Carter, former First Lady**

## **MO LEAP Information from DESE**

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), in response to recommendations from the Task Force for Learning Acceleration, has developed the Missouri Learning, Engagement and Preparation (MO LEAP) resources to support Missouri educators.

When the coronavirus began spreading rapidly across the United States last spring, Missouri educators took swift and decisive action to mitigate the development of a full-blown pandemic by closing school buildings and providing remote learning experiences for students. Despite these best efforts, the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), studying the effects of school disruptions on student learning, estimated that most students would return to school this fall with learning losses of 30% to 50% compared to previous years. Click [here](#) to read more about the NWEA study. It is imperative that districts determine the status of each student's skills and competencies as school re-opens.

In addition, research tells us and DESE's Task Force for Learning Acceleration agrees that the return to learning in fall 2020 should focus on grade-appropriate, standards-aligned instruction with supports for individual student's learning gaps, not on across-the-board remediation. Built with this in mind, MO LEAP has two categories: Assessments to identify learning gaps and Blocks to provide standards-aligned instructional support.

MO LEAP Assessments are designed to help Missouri teachers understand gaps in student learning so they can develop instructional plans and organize the structures and supports their students need to get back on track. They measure the acquisition of skills and concepts that are essential for students to have learned in order to be successful in the coming year and connect to Missouri priority standards.

Missouri educators played a key role in the design of the MO LEAP resources. MO LEAP Assessment items mirror the question types in Missouri's Grade-Level and End-of-Course assessments. MO LEAP Assessments are available in English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. They can be used flexibly at the classroom level, whether brick-and-mortar or virtual. MO LEAP scores are available shortly after testing.

MO LEAP Blocks are classroom resources made up of diverse and complex texts aligned to grade-level standards coupled with flexible tasks and enrichment options. Inspired by Missouri teachers for Missouri teachers, MO LEAP Blocks may be used as a whole, in parts, or integrated separately into instruction. They function equally well when used by individual teachers or teams of teachers.

MO LEAP Assessments and Blocks are provided free of charge to Missouri districts. Students have been pre-enrolled in MO LEAP Assessments and the test window is open now. MO LEAP Blocks will be available in September. Visit the [MO LEAP website](#) for more information.

If you have questions regarding MO LEAP, please contact at [curriculum@dese.mo.gov](mailto:curriculum@dese.mo.gov), [assessment@dese.mo.gov](mailto:assessment@dese.mo.gov), or 573-751-3545

## **Missouri School Plant Managers Golf Tournament**

NO CONFERENCES,

NO PROBLEM!

OCT. 12, 2020 / 8:30 AM

TANGLEWOOD GOLF CLUB FULTON, MO

There will be a Lunch and Learn session promptly  
after the tournament.

For more information, access the link below:

[MSPMA Golf Tournament - Sponsored by The Garland Company](#)

## **MARE Organization Staff**

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