



MARE Focus

SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

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

ENDORSEMENTS

American Fidelity Assurance Co.

Claim Care, Inc.

CTS Group

Erate Program, LLC

Forrest T. Jones & Co.

Grandview R-II Virtual SS

IMS

L.J. Hart & Company

MEUHP

Mike Keith Insurance

M.U.S.I.C.

MO. Consultants for Ed.

Pro-Energy Solutions

SOCs

MARE PARTNERSHIPS

- LEGAL HOTLINE: ED COUNSEL, GUIN MUNDORF, MICKES O'TOOLE, TUETH KEENEY
- EDPLUS
- ED TECH PARTNERS
- AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE
- MISSOURI ADMIN. JOB POSTING

MARE Superintendent Searches – MARE is conducting the following Superintendent Searches:

Van Buren R-I School District – Dr. Paul Ricker is the Search Consultant. More information will be released soon regarding this vacancy.

North Andrew County R-VI – Dr. Craig Eaton is the Search Consultant. More information will be released soon regarding this vacancy.

MARE Superintendent Search Program – One of the services that our organization provides is the Superintendent Search Program. Over the last three years, MARE Search Consultants have completed twenty-seven searches from schools all over the state. If you are retiring or leaving your district, we would love the opportunity to help your Board select the next leader. More information on the program can be accessed on our website. Search consultants include Dr. Mike Jinks, Dr. Paul Ricker and Dr. Craig Eaton. Ray, Jerry or I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

Welcome New School District Members – MARE would like to welcome Sturgeon R-V, Willard R-II, Howell Valley R-I, Osage County R-III, New Madrid County R-I, Wheaton R-III, Fordland R-III, Oak Hill R-I, Crystal City 47, Gainesville R-I and Gasconade County R-II as new or returning MARE member districts.

Outstanding Rural Awards – Special thanks to all of those who submitted nominations and letters of support for the “Outstanding Rural Education Awards” this year. The committee is reviewing the applications and will be announcing winners soon. The winners will be recognized on Thursday, October 19th during the MARE/MO K-8 Conference Luncheon. Awards will be given in the following categories:

- Outstanding Rural Teacher
- Outstanding Rural School District
- Outstanding Rural Administrator
- “Friend of Education”

MARE Membership – I often get asked what benefits does a district receive as part of MARE membership. I can assure you that the nominal membership dues pale in comparison to the benefits that members enjoy. Annual membership dues provide support for:

1. Free Legal Hotline Service – Representatives from Mickes O’Toole, EdCounsel, Guin Mundorf and Thomeczek and Brink provide answers to your questions on minor legal issues.
2. Collaborative Lobbying Efforts – MARE is a member of the School Administrators Coalition (SAC) that works collectively with many of the school organizations to lobby on behalf of Missouri public education.
3. National Advocacy – MARE is part of the National Rural Education Association and actively participates in advocacy in Washington on behalf of rural schools across the nation.
4. Superintendent Searches – MARE provides a very affordable and well structured search program for school districts in need of Superintendents and Building Administrators.
5. Annual Conference – MARE partners with MO K-8 to provide an annual fall Conference. Sessions planned focus on education matters important to rural and small schools.
6. Saves districts money with various Associate Member products and services including Lease Purchasing (L.J. Hart), Natural Gas Consortium (Pro-Energy Solutions), Cooperative Purchasing (Education Plus), Software Programs (Education Technology Partners), Record Scanning/Storage (IMS), Website Support (SOCS) and others.
7. Coordinates two scholarship programs that focus on providing money for students interested in pursuing education degrees. This year alone the programs provided \$23,000 dollars to thirty-five (35) students majoring in education.
8. Executive Board is made up of ten (10) practicing rural School Superintendents, two (2) at-large school Board members, one (1) K-8 representative, and one (1) Higher Education Representative.

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list as we have many other MARE Associate Members who provide services for school districts.

MARE/MO K-8 Fall Conference – Our joint conference will be held Wednesday, October 18th through Friday, October 20th at The Lodge of the Four Seasons. We have a number of great sessions and events planned. Links to the “Conference Planner at a Glance” and the Conference Registration Form are included in the Focus Cover Page.

School Board Training Dates

Lake Ozark, MO – October 18-20, 2017 (Conference)

Forms are available on the MARE website at www.moare.com.

We may offer one or two additional Board Training sessions after December. If you have Board members who need training, please let us know. We will need to have 7-10 members within a geographical area to make this work.

Legal Articles – *We have added a number of new legal articles to our website recently. Please check this out at www.moare.com. Special thanks to our partners at EdCounsel, Mickes O’Toole, Guin Mundorf, and Tueth Keeney for providing these articles.*

2017-2018 Missouri School Directories – MARE will be providing one (1) free copy of the new school directory for each member school district as part of your membership benefit. We will be delivering these at the MASA area meetings. If you ordered additional copies through MARE, we will have those available for delivery as well.

MARE Associate Members – If you are in need of products or services, please give one of our Associate Members a call! A complete listing of MARE Associate Members can be found on the website!

Quote of the Week

“The best part of teaching is that it matters, The hardest part of teaching is that every moment matters, every day!” Todd Whitaker

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