

# MARE/MO K-8 Fall Conference 2025

## "The Power of Rural Education"

### Conference Planner at a Glance

<u>Time</u>	<u>Session/Program/Presenter</u>	<u>Room</u>
<b><u>Wednesday, October 22</u></b>		
11:00-5:00 p.m.	MARE Initial Mandatory School Board Training - Dr. Jamie Burkhart	Seachase
11:00 a.m.	MO K-8 Executive Board Meeting - Mrs. Lexie Wallace	Marbella
11:30-12:45 p.m.	<b><u>Conference Pre-Sessions</u></b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase Retention &amp; Revolutionize Culture – Bryan Rush</li> <li>Ethical AI for Educators – Dr. Nikki Harding</li> <li>Empowering Instructional Leadership – Shauna Stephanchick &amp; Shaundra Ingram</li> <li>CTE Certification Opportunity – Dr. Calee McElwain, iCEV</li> </ul>	HK's Club Rm. Seville Lookout Valencia A Marbella A/B
1:00-2:00 p.m.	<b>Preparing for the 2026 Legislative Session – Mike Lodewegen (MCSA)</b>	
2:10-2:50 p.m.	<b><u>Small Group Sessions</u></b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where Does Our Money Come From &amp; Go? – Jungmann/Ziegler/Price</li> <li>MVBT's Journey into Long-Range Capital Planning – Downing/Chowning</li> <li>Bridging the Gap: Recruitment, Retention, &amp; Communication – Orr/Yeagy</li> <li>Checklist to Reduce Student Tobacco Use – Christy Inskip</li> <li>Kids Read Now! Reading Success Model – Walter/Miller</li> <li>ADA Compliance – Using AI to Beat the Deadline – Fuemmeler/Penny</li> <li>The Kummer Center for STEM Education – Sanders/Otto</li> <li>MASA First-Year Superintendents &amp; Mentor Roundtable – Kelly Hinshaw</li> </ul>	Granada A Granada B Granada C Valencia A Valencia B HK's Club Rm. Seville Lookout
3:00-3:40 p.m.	<b><u>Small Group Sessions</u></b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making School Finance Simpler &amp; More Transparent – Larrick/Larson</li> <li>Senate Bill 68 Update: School Facility Ramifications – Kyle Gorrell, MSPMA</li> <li>Strengthening Communication to Build Trust – Filer/Banner</li> <li>Beyond the Book: Unpacking the Volunteer Effect – Click/Wisdom/Plybon</li> <li>A Trusted &amp; Positive Voice for Public Education – Dorothy Rohde-Collins</li> <li>Federal Programs 2025 – Updates &amp; Ideas – De Frink-Hedglin</li> <li>Roundtable with DESE Area Supervisors</li> <li>Small Schools Committee Meeting (<b>Members Only</b>) – Lodewegen/Kimble</li> </ul>	Granada A Granada B Granada C Valencia A Valencia B HK's Club Rm. Seville Lookout
3:45-4:30 p.m.	<b>Teachers Wanted: Reimagining Recruitment - Dr. Paul Katnik</b>	Marbella A/B
3:00-7:30 p.m.	Exhibits Open	Campana Hall
4:30-7:30 p.m.	Reception with Exhibitors - Register for Door Prizes & School Checks	Campana Hall
<b><u>Thursday, October 23</u></b>		
7:00-9:00 a.m.	Breakfast with Exhibitors	Campana Hall
8:00-4:30 p.m.	MARE Initial Mandatory School Board Training – Dr. Jamie Burkhart	Seachase
9:00-9:15 a.m.	Vendor Prizes/Drawings for Exhibit Booth Cards & \$500.00 School Checks	Campana Hall
9:30-10:30 a.m.	<b>We've Got Your Six: Top Legal Issues Facing Schools – Martin/Omohundro</b>	Marbella A/B
10:40-11:30 a.m.	<b><u>Small Group Sessions</u></b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Mandatory 1 Hour Board Refresher Training – Emily Omohundro, EdCounsel</li> <li>Roofing Systems: Restore, Maintain or Replace? – Tim Corry</li> <li>Starting Strong: Communication Strategies for New Superintendents – Filer/Kirby</li> <li>Post-Secondary Transition Is Coming to a Student Near You – Mary Beth Scherer</li> <li>Empowering School Leaders - Conflict as a Catalyst for Growth – Dr. Nikki Harding</li> <li>"Show Me the VIDEO" – Responding to Requests to Review Records- McDaniel/Bernard</li> </ul>	Granada A Granada B Granada C Valencia A Valencia B HK's Club Rm.

***HAVE A SAFE & SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR***

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### Conference Planner at a Glance (Continued)

<u>Time</u>	<u>Session/Program/Presenter</u>	<u>Room</u>
<b><u>Thursday, October 23 Continued</u></b>		
10:40-11:30 a.m.	<b><u>Small Group Sessions</u></b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making School Finance Simpler &amp; More Transparent – Larrick/Larson <b>(Repeat)</b></li> <li>Unlocking ESSA Success: Strategies for Maximum Impact – Cowell/Villmer</li> </ul>	Seville Lookout
11:45-1:15 p.m.	<b><u>Awards/Lunch/Speaker</u></b>	Marbella A/B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Outstanding Rural Education Awards – MARE &amp; MO K-8</b></li> <li><b>National Rural Education Association Update – Dr. Melissa Sadorf, NREA Exec. Dir.</b></li> </ul>	Marbella A/B Marbella A/B
1:20-2:10 p.m.	<b><u>Small Group Sessions</u></b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board Meeting Jeopardy - Duane Martin, EdCounsel</li> <li>Retrofitting Older Buildings for Modern Utilization – Bextermueller</li> <li>AI in Action: 2 Years in, Strategic Vision for Year 3 &amp; Beyond – Crooks/Allen</li> <li>Opening Our Doors Wider – MSHSAA &amp; SB 63 – Rukstad/Hoernschemeyer</li> <li>Pathway to Proficiency – Standards Based Grading – Stephanchick/Gray</li> <li>Avoiding (or at least defending) Due Process &amp; Discrimination Claims – Michelle Basi</li> <li>Growing Local Talent: Registered Youth Apprenticeships in Rural Missouri - Stinson</li> <li>Creating a School District Farm – Bieri/Scherer</li> </ul>	Granada A Granada B Granada C Valencia A Valencia B HK's Club Rm. Seville Lookout
2:20-3:10 p.m.	<b><u>Small Group Sessions</u></b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeopardy Beyond the Board Meeting - Duane Martin, EdCounsel</li> <li>MSPMA's Preventative Maintenance Program – Rich/Branham</li> <li>When Social Media Strikes: Supporting Staff – Marci Orr</li> <li>Blueprints for Rural CTE Success – Nold/McElwain</li> <li>Increase Retention &amp; Revolutionize Culture – Bryan Rush <b>(Repeat)</b></li> <li>Turning a Credible Threat Into a Credible Plan – Bernard/McDaniel</li> <li>MO K-8 School Leadership Roundtable – MO K-8 Board Members</li> <li>Inside the MARE Superintendent Search Service – MARE Search Consultants</li> </ul>	Granada A Granada B Granada C Valencia A Valencia B HK's Club Rm. Seville Lookout
3:20-4:20 p.m.	<b>Legal Panel - Answers to "Hot Topic Questions"</b>	Marbella A/B
4:30-5:00 p.m.	MO K-8 General Membership Meeting – Mrs. Lexie Wallace	Seville
5:00-6:00 p.m.	MARE Executive Board Meeting - Mr. Kevin Sandlin	HK's Club Rm.

### **Friday, October 24**

7:00-8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Marbella A/B
8:00-8:45 a.m.	<b>DESE School Finance &amp; Governance Update - Dr. Kyle Kruse</b>	Marbella A/B
8:45-9:30 a.m.	<b>School Funding Modernization Task Force Update – Dr. Kyle Kruse</b>	Marbella A/B
9:30-10:00 a.m.	<b>A Conversation with the Commissioner - Dr. Karla Eslinger</b>	Marbella A/B
10:05-11:00 a.m.	<b>From Overwhelmed to Organized – Investigations – Wiens/Hansen</b>	Marbella A/B
11:00-11:30 a.m.	MARE General Membership Meeting/Prizes/Conference Adjournment	Marbella A/B

**\*\* Conference may conclude earlier than scheduled depending on Friday morning sessions!**

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