

Strengthening Minnesota's K-12 independent schools through
advocacy and advancement



We hope you find this condensed summer e-news informative. It contains reminders for upcoming opportunities to connect and convene with other educators and leaders. There are also two special opportunities for nonpublic schools through the MN Department of Health.

New Member Incentive Announced

[Want to join a robust cohort of 155 member schools?](#)

Have you thought about becoming an MISF member, but haven't made your final decision?

Now is the time!

Thanks to a very generous grant from the **Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation**, a special new member incentive program has been developed. Any independent or private school interested in becoming members of MISF can join for a reduced rate for the first year. Want to learn more about this opportunity, including how it benefits your school, educators, students and leaders? Contact Tim Benz (tbenz@misf.org) or Michelle Ponsolle (mponsole@misf.org) or call 651-297-6716, or [click here](#) to complete a new member application

There's still time to register!

MISF's Ninth Annual STEM Education Conference



- Thursday, August 11, 2016
- 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Host School: Concordia Academy ~ Roseville, MN

Open to all Nonpublic School Educators in Minnesota.

There are more than 40 breakout sessions tailored to grades K-4, 5-8 and 9-12. [Click here](#) to view a list and descriptions of the breakout sessions. Space is limited, so you'll want to register early to ensure that you are able to attend the breakout sessions of your choice.

**We are pleased to announce our keynote speaker for the 2016
STEM Education Conference.**

Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper



Stefanyshyn-Piper is a retired American Naval officer and a former NASA astronaut. A veteran of two space flights, STS-115 in 2006, and STS-126 in 2008, Stefanyshyn-Piper has logged over 27 days in space, and 33 hours and 42 minutes of EVA in 5 space walks. She was born in St. Paul, MN in 1963 and graduated from then-Derham Hall High School in 1980.

[**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!**](#)

School Leadership Conference September 26-28, 2016 Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge

Save the date - registration opens soon



Planning is underway for the 11th annual MISF School Leadership Conference. This conference is an opportunity for member school leaders to hear expert presenters share valuable information on a wide-ranging variety of topics. Some of the topics for this year's conference (both tentative and confirmed) include:

- Special education in private schools
- Mental health resources
- Leadership
- Working with your board
- HR employment law
- SCOPE 2015
- and more to be announced

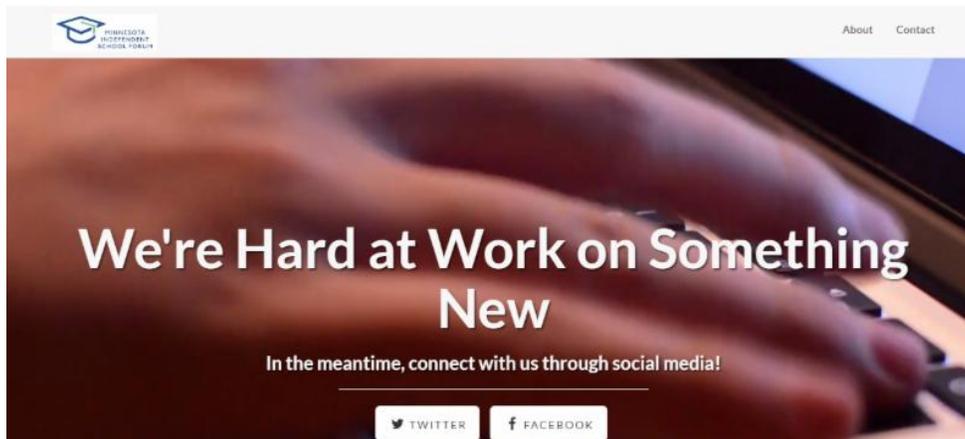
Notes from last year's attendees:

It was great to begin building my independent school network of administrative peers...invaluable!

Enjoy the social interactions with bright people who are passionate about mission driven education.

It was great to connect with other school heads.... It was very valuable to me and I would recommend it to other school leaders. I will be back next year.

Watch your inbox for more information coming soon.



MISF's New Website

If you've tried accessing our website lately, you've seen a landing page telling you that we're hard at work on something new. We are working with [Digital Solutions](#) to design a new, more user-friendly website. All the same important information will be there, in addition to some exciting new features. The re-launch is scheduled for the end of July. In the meantime, you can reach us by phone (651-297-6716), email (info@misf.org), and follow us on social media.

MDE Update

Asthma-Friendly Schools Mini-Grants

The Minnesota Department of Health's Asthma Program in partnership with the American Lung Association in Minnesota is offering mini-grant funding to support schools in working to create asthma friendly schools. Grant money up to \$1,500 is available to implement a variety of school-based projects in elementary, middle or high school setting from June 8, 2016 through August 31, 2017.

Schools will establish their own timeline to complete their projects by the August 31, 2017 deadline. The funds are available to public schools, charter schools, and private schools and can be applied to individual schools or across districts. Applications are now being accepted for the current grant cycle.

For more information, go to the Minnesota Asthma Program - [Asthma Friendly Schools Mini-Grant Program](#) to learn how to submit your application.

Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Training for Schools

The Minnesota Department of Health is conducting 'School Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Trainings' statewide and via webinar this Fall.

This training will discuss the state's best practices for school IAQ management, which include having an IAQ Coordinator and an IAQ Plan. While non-public schools are not required to follow the best practices, it is recommended that they have an IAQ Coordinator and an IAQ Plan.

Registration is required. [Click here to view the training announcement](#) and visit:

www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/indoorair/schools/ for more details.



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Minnesota Independent School Forum, 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 505, St.
Paul, MN 55101-5000

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