

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



Letter from the President

This week is a big week for many of our schools. We extend good luck to those participating in their own giving days, or in Give to the Max Day. These days are wonderful opportunities to rally your community around the noble expression of philanthropy. We look forward to hearing your stories of success.

Thanks to the attendees, sponsors and vendors who joined us for the 2015 School Leadership Conference at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge. It was another dynamic gathering of school leaders sharing ideas, learning best practices and connecting under the common banner of MISF. Mark your calendar for September 26-28, 2016, for next year's conference. We are confident if you take the time to come, you will realize the great value of this offering.

For those who attended our admissions workshop, featuring Rick Newberry, you witnessed an amazing presentation on how to build a strong and sustainable enrollment/admissions program. The materials from this presentation are available in the member-only section of our website. Also, check out Rick's blog at www.enrollmentcatalyst.com/blog.

As you may have noticed, we are using a new format for our e-newsletter, which includes a mobile-friendly version. Feel free to send your comments. Our goal is to continue to expand our communication channels.

Please let us know how we can help you maximize your membership.



Tim Benz, CFRE
President

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STEM Scoop

MISF STEM Grant Program

MISF will open its annual STEM Grant opportunity in December for MISF member schools. Since the inception of the STEM Grant program MISF has



awarded 127 grants totaling \$666,579 to schools across the state from Hibbing to Egerton, Winona to Fergus Falls, and throughout the Twin Cities metropolitan area. These grants have supported the development of an integrated, three-year middle school STEM curriculum team taught by three teachers, a trebuchet and catapult design/build program culminating in an all-school (grades K-6) punkin chunkin event, and a high school forensics science course, along with many others. More information about the MISF STEM Program is available at www.misf.org. STEM Grant guidelines and application forms will be posted on December 1.

Our thanks goes out to the 3M Foundation, Schott Foundation and Xcel Energy Foundation for their ongoing support of the MISF STEM Program.

STEM Education Opportunities

UST engineering education program

Spring 2016 - EGED 531: Engineering Design

(3 graduate credits) [Jan 22/23, Feb 19/20, Mar 18/19, Apr 15/16] The engineering design process for PK-12 educators: design projects, hands-on computer labs, lectures and field trips will introduce students to how the engineering design process is applied in a variety of fields. Students will learn how to create engineering drawings, apply an engineering design process, use computer-aided-design (CAD) technology, and work with rapid prototyping tools. Strategies for incorporating engineering design projects into the K-12 classroom will be discussed. Instructors: Dr. Deb Besser & Dr. AnnMarie Thomas. [Additional courses may be found on the resources page of the MISF website.](#)

The graduate engineering education courses are \$1200/course.

[Click here for the MDE November Science Update.](#)

MISF Development Workshop

Join us on Thursday, November 19th, from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM for the Fundamentals of Grant Writing Workshop at Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew School in St. Paul. Registration has been extended through Monday, November 16th.

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Welcome New Members

MISF welcomes the following new members, who have joined us since July, 2015.

- [Shakopee Area Catholic School](#), Shakopee
- [Sacred Heart Catholic School](#), Robbinsdale
- [Morning Son Christian School](#), Fergus Falls
- [Zion Lutheran School](#), Alexandria
- [TransformED Academy](#), Rochester
- [St. Pascal Baylon School](#), St. Paul
- [St. John Lutheran School](#), Elk River
- [Faithful Shepherd Catholic School](#), Eagan

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