



2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Mission

MISF connects and strengthens Minnesota's independent schools through exceptional training, resources, and advocacy so they can be student-centered and mission-driven.



WE BELIEVE:

When every independent school is connected and strong, Minnesota's families will be able to select the school that best fits their children, and Minnesota's students will excel.

Our communities are facing rapid change, and we need agile young people who are prepared to solve complex challenges and embrace new opportunities—this will only happen if all students have the opportunity to attend the school that is the best fit for them.

WE CONNECT SCHOOL LEADERS to each other and build their capacity through access to critical resources so that they are able to lead schools that thrive and meet the needs of their students, families, and staff.

WE CREATE MEANINGFUL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES for staff and teachers to learn from each other and develop new skills so that they are equipped to build exceptional schools and deliver high quality education for all students.

WE ADVOCATE with a focused and united voice so that local and state policy makers will understand and support policies and practices that strengthen Minnesota's independent schools.

Dear friends of Minnesota Independent School Forum:

We are pleased to share our 2017-18 Annual Report as we recognize and celebrate the amazing effort and commitment of so many schools, donors, funders and partners who empower our work throughout the year.

This past year was focused on the implementation and execution of our new strategic direction. Thanks to a significant amount of stakeholder feedback, MISF has increased the primary areas of focus for the year to include four key objectives. Through this focused work, key outcomes and learnings included:

- Increased member school retention to 94.2%, an increase of our historical average of 90%.
- Piloted a STEM community of practice, to allow schools to learn best practices from each other, a core concept of how MISF connects and strengthens independent schools.
- Implemented a new member engagement effort to ensure new school leaders are familiar with all the resources and benefits of a membership with MISF.

- Surpassed the \$1,000,000 threshold in STEM grants provided to member schools since the inception of our STEM program. This is not possible without the generous commitment of 3M, Xcel Energy and Schott Foundation.

We extend our gratitude for the service of outgoing board members Kevin Gyolai, Greg Margarit and Gene Pfeifer. They have invested many volunteer hours in the mission of MISF and provided strong guidance in exceptional ways.

We invite your continued investment and support of MISF. Our work has never been more important to ensure a strong and unified voice is brought forward for Minnesota's private and independent schools.



Josh Killian
Chair, Board of Directors



Tim Benz
President

2017 – 2018 MEMBER SCHOOLS

MISF member schools represent a strong array of educational choices serving students and families across Minnesota. During 2017-18, MISF's membership network grew to 157 schools serving 34,717 students.

Academy of Holy Angels
Richfield, 9-12

Academy of Whole Learning
Minnetonka, K-12

Al-Amal School
Fridley, PK-12

Annunciation School
Minneapolis, PK-8

Ascension School
Minneapolis, K-8

Benilde-St. Margaret's
St. Louis Park, 7-12

Bethany Academy
Minneapolis, K-12

Bethlehem Academy
Faribault, 7-12

Blessed Trinity School
(Nicollet Campus)
Richfield, PK-8

Blessed Trinity School
(Penn Campus)
Richfield, PK-8

Calvin Christian High School
Fridley, 9-12

Calvin Christian School - Blaine
Blaine, K-8

Calvin Christian School - Edina
Edina, PK-8

Carondelet Catholic School
Minneapolis, K-8

Central Minnesota Christian School
Prinsburg, PK-12

Christ Community Lutheran School
Watertown, PK-8

Christ Lutheran School
North St. Paul, K-8

Christian Heritage Academy
Rosemount, PK-8

Christian Life Academy
Farmington, PK-12

Community of Saints Regional Catholic School
West St. Paul, PK-8

Concordia Academy - Roseville
Roseville, 9-12

Cotter Schools
Winona, 7-12

Cretin-Derham Hall
St. Paul, 9-12

Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
Minneapolis, 9-12

DeLaSalle High School
Minneapolis, 9-12

Edgerton Christian Elementary School
Edgerton, PK-8

Emanuel Lutheran School
Hamburg, PK-8

Faithful Shepherd Catholic School
Eagan, K-8

Faribault Lutheran School
Faribault, K-8

First Evangelical Lutheran School
Glencoe, PK-8

Frassati Catholic Academy
White Bear Lake, PK-8

Gethsemane School
Maplewood, PK-8

Glory Academy
Lakeville, PK-4

Good Shepherd Lutheran School
Burnsville, PK-8

Hand in Hand Christian Montessori
Roseville, PK-8

Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School
Minneapolis, K-8

Heritage Christian Academy
Maple Grove, K-12

Highland Catholic School
St. Paul, PK-8

Hillcrest Lutheran Academy
Fergus Falls, 7-12

Hill-Murray School
Maplewood, 6-12

Holy Family Catholic High School
Victoria, 9-12

Holy Name of Jesus School
Wayzata, PK-6

Holy Spirit Catholic School
St. Paul, PK-8

Holy Spirit School
Rochester, K-8

Holy Trinity Catholic School
Pierz, PK-6

Holy Trinity School
Winsted, PK-12

Hope Lutheran High School
Winona, 9-12

Immanuel Lutheran School
Lakefield, PK-8

Immanuel Lutheran School
Plainview, PK-8

John Ireland School
St. Peter, K-6

King of Grace Lutheran School
Golden Valley, PK-8

King of Kings Lutheran School
Roseville, PK-8

Legacy Christian Academy
Andover, PK-12

Liberty Classical Academy
White Bear Lake, PK-12

Life Academy
Bloomington, PK-8

Lourdes High School
Rochester, 9-12

Loyola Catholic School
Mankato, PK-12

Magnuson Christian School
White Bear Lake, K-6

Maplewood Academy
Hutchinson, 9-12

Maranatha Christian Academy
Brooklyn Park, PK-12

Martin Luther High School
Northrop, 9-12

Mary Queen of Peace School
Rogers, PK-6

Mayer Lutheran High School
Mayer, 9-12

Minnehaha Academy
Minneapolis, 9-12

Minnehaha Academy
(South Campus)
Minneapolis, PK-8

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School
New Ulm, 9-12

Morning Son Christian School
Fergus Falls, PK-6

Most Holy Redeemer Catholic School
Montgomery, PK-8

Mountain Lake Christian School
Mountain Lake, PK-12

Nativity of Mary School
Bloomington, PK-8

Nativity of Our Lord School
St. Paul, PK-8

New Life Academy
Woodbury, PK-12

New Testament Christian School
Alexandria, K-12

New Ulm Area Catholic Schools
New Ulm, PK-12

Notre Dame Academy
Minnetonka, PK-8

Oak Hill Montessori
Shoreview, PK-8

Our Lady of Peace School
Minneapolis, PK-8

Pacelli Elementary School
Austin, PK-5

Pacelli Middle/High School
Austin, 6-12

Park Christian School
Moorhead, K-12

Petra Lutheran School
Sauk Rapids, K-8

Pine Harbor Christian Academy
Hastings, PK-8

Pioneers Academy
Brooklyn Park, K-4

Prairie Lutheran School
Fairfax, PK-8

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Maplewood, PK-8

Risen Christ School
Minneapolis, K-8

Risen Savior Lutheran School
Mankato, K-8

Rochester Arts & Sciences Academy
Rochester, PK-5

Sacred Heart Catholic School
Robbinsdale, PK-8

Saint Agnes School
St. Paul, K-12

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton School
Hastings, PK-8

Saint John's Preparatory School
Collegeville, 6-12

Saint Thomas Academy
Mendota Heights, 7-12

School of St. Philip
Litchfield, PK-5

Southwest Christian High School
Chaska, 9-12

Southwest Minnesota Christian High School
Edgerton, 9-12

St. Alphonsus Catholic School
Brooklyn Center, PK-8

St. Anne's School
LeSueur, PK-5

St. Boniface School
Cold Spring, PK-6

St. Charles Borromeo School
Minneapolis, PK-8

St. Croix Catholic School
Stillwater, PK-8

St. Croix Lutheran Academy
West St. Paul, 6-12

St. Croix Montessori School
Stillwater, PK-8

St. Dominic School
Northfield, PK-8

St. Francis of Assisi School
Rochester, K-8

St. Hubert School
Chanhassen, PK-8

St. Jerome School
Maplewood, PK-8

St. John Lutheran School
Elk River, K-7

St. John Lutheran School
Redwood Falls, PK-8

St. John Paul II Prep School
Minneapolis, K-8

St. John the Baptist Catholic School
Savage, PK-8

St. John the Evangelist School
Rochester, 5-8

St. John Vianney School
Fairmont, PK-6

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran School
Caledonia, PK-8

St. John's Lutheran School
Chaska, PK-8

St. John's Lutheran School
Corcoran, PK-8

St. John's Lutheran School
Lake City, PK-8

St. Joseph Catholic School
Waconia, PK-8

St. Joseph's School
Grand Rapids, PK-6

St. Joseph's School
Moorhead, PK-8

St. Joseph's School
West St. Paul, PK-8

St. Jude of the Lake School
Mahtomedi, K-5

St. Katharine Drexel School
Saint Cloud, PK-6

St. Mark's School
St. Paul, PK-8

St. Mary's Elementary School
Sleepy Eye, PK-6

St. Mary's High School
Sleepy Eye, 7-12

St. Mary's School
Morris, PK-6

St. Mary's School
Owatonna, PK-8

St. Michael Catholic School
Prior Lake, PK-8

St. Michael Catholic School
St. Michael, PK-8

St. Odilia School
Shoreview, PK-8

St. Pascal Baylon School
St. Paul, PK-8

St. Paul Preparatory School
St. Paul, 9-12

St. Paul's Lutheran School
New Ulm, PK-8

St. Paul's Lutheran School
Prior Lake, PK-8

St. Paul's Lutheran School
St. James, K-8

St. Peter Catholic School
Forest Lake, PK-6

St. Peter Catholic School
North St. Paul, PK-8

St. Peter Claver
St. Paul, K-8

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran School
St. Peter, PK-8

St. Pius X School
Rochester, PK-4

Sts. Peter & Paul School
Richmond, K-5

Sunny Hollow Montessori
St. Paul, PK-6

The Way of the Shepherd Montessori
Blaine, PK-6

Totino-Grace High School
Fridley, 9-12

Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran School
Eagan, PK-8

Trinity Lutheran School
Belle Plaine, PK-8

Trinity Lutheran School
Janesville, PK-8

Trinity Lutheran School
St. Francis, PK-8

Trinity Lutheran School
Waconia, PK-8

Veritas Academy
North Branch, K-12

West Lutheran High School
Plymouth, 9-12

White Bear Montessori School
White Bear Lake, PK-6

Winona Area Catholic Schools
Winona, PK-6

Yeshiva of Minneapolis
Minneapolis, 9-12

Zion Lutheran School
Alexandria, PK-8

Zion Lutheran School
Mayer, PK-8

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Karla Cross

Director, Office of Catholic Schools
Diocese of New Ulm

Sarah Mueller

Executive Director
Minnesota Nonpublic School
Accrediting Association

Sean Martens

Education Executive
Minnesota South District – LCMS

Marsha Stenzel

Director of Catholic Education
Diocese of Winona

Tina Stanger

Superintendent
Diocese of Crookston

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Wyayn Rasmussen - *Head of School, Academy of Whole Learning*

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Rosa Miller - *Vice President, Latin America, 3M (Retired)*

* *Executive Committee*

2017-2018 MISF STAFF



Tim Benz
President

Debbie Kaliszewski
Business Manager

Michelle Ponsolle
Director of Development & Programs
(Retired, June 2018)

Michele Skare
Administrative Assistant

Lisa Vosbeek
Director of Development & Programs
(Hired, June 2018)

CONSULTANT

Beth Murphy, Ph.D.
STEM Program Manager

PRESIDENT'S CABINET



The President's Cabinet raises awareness of what is happening in independent and private education and how MISF is working to support the efforts of its schools. Their commitment is important to MISF as it strives to bring more resources, information, and representation to Minnesota's 450 independent and private schools.

2017-2018 MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET

- Greg Anklam** - Senior Managing Director, RBC Wealth Management (Retired)
- Bob Chandler** - Partner, Chandler and Brown, LTD
- Anne Cullen Miller** - President, Catholic Community Foundation
- Tom Delich** - Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, RBC Wealth Management
- Mike Dickson** - Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, RBC Capital Markets
- Tom Farnham** - Senior Risk Consultant, North Risk Partners
- David Faust** - President and CEO, Platinum Bank
- Kenneth Holmen** - President and CEO, CentraCare Health
- Linda Holmen** - Past MISF Board Chair
- Dan Jaeger** - Business Administrator, St. Patrick Catholic Church
- Doug Jaeger** - President and CEO, Ulteig
- Robert Jones** - Dr. Robert W. Jones DDS (Retired)
- Paul Jordan** - CEO, Corval Group
- Tom Keyes** - Investment Advisor, Shamrock Wealth Management
- Steve Lentz** - Counsel, Faegre Baker Daniels LLP
- John McCall** - JE McCall, Consulting (Retired Executive)
- Rosa Miller** - Vice President, 3M Latin America (Retired)
- Sumita Mitra, Ph.D.** - Mitra Chemical Consulting LLC & Corporate Scientist (3M - Retired)
- Blake Nelson** - Attorney, Hellmuth & Johnson PLLP
- Dennis Nigon** - President, Rochester Catholic Schools (Retired)
- Phil Paquette** - Principal, Boyum & Barenscbeer LLP
- Jon Theobald** - Chairman Emeritus, Mairs & Power

STEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE



MISF's STEM Advisory Committee engages representatives from the community who have expertise and a vested interest in high quality STEM education. This committee serves as the review panel for the STEM Grant Program.

MEMBERS OF THE 2017-2018 STEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Greg Chamberlain - *Committee Chair, Xcel Energy*

Vikram Ghosh - *Ardent Mills*

John Henderson - *3M Automotive Aftermarket Division*

Dr. Jennifer Krieger - *Holy Spirit School, St. Paul*

Mark Lamps - *nVent*

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Debbie Monson - *University of St. Thomas*

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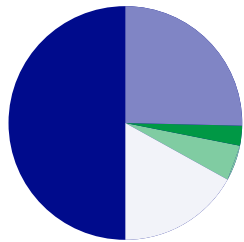
Justin Spencer - *The Bakken Museum*

Jorge Ulate - *General Mills*

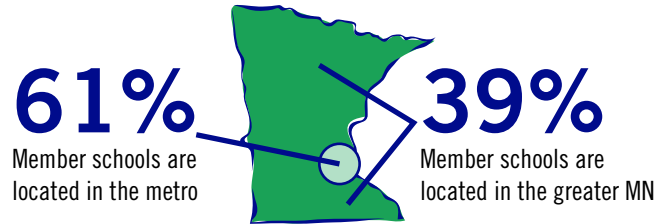
Beth Murphy, Ph.D. - *MISF STEM Program Manager*

2017-2018 FACTS ABOUT MISF

157 member schools



- 50% Catholic
- 26% Lutheran
- 14% Interdenominational
- 6% Independent
- 4% Other Religious affiliation



94%

Member Schools
Retention rate



34,717 Students in Member Schools



85%

Engagement rate
with 157 member schools



35 STEM Grants

awarded in 2018-19 totaling
\$129,976

226

STEM Grants awarded
to member schools
since 2010

\$1,051,665

Awarded to member schools to date

2017-2018 PRIVATE & INDEPENDENT EDUCATION AWARDS

LEADERSHIP AWARD HONOREES



LEADERSHIP AWARD K-6

Gwen Berge, Heritage Christian Academy



LEADERSHIP AWARD 7-12

Jamie Jurkovich, St. Thomas Academy

2017-2018 PRIVATE & INDEPENDENT EDUCATION AWARDS

HONOR TEACHER AWARDEES



K-8 HONOR TEACHER

Erin Offerdahl, St. Hubert Catholic School



GRADES 9-12 HONOR TEACHER

Curtis Kettler, Southwest Christian High School

2017-2018 PRIVATE & INDEPENDENT EDUCATION AWARDS

EDUCATION AWARDS HONOREES



BEHIND-THE-SCENES AWARD

Don DuBois, Minnehaha Academy



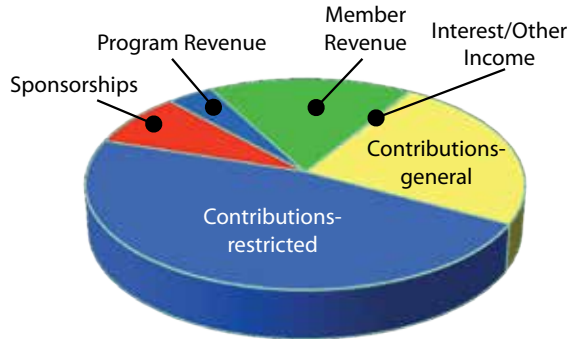
COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD

Karen Percich, Minnehaha Academy

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY 2017-18

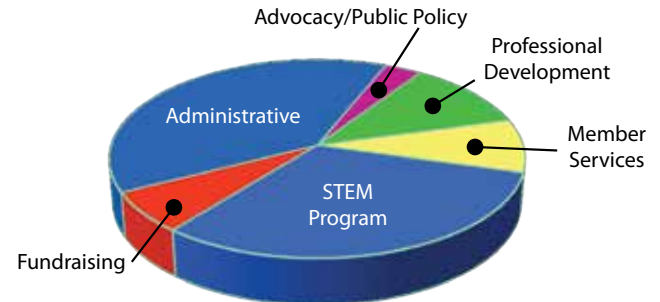
Revenue and Other Support

Contributions-general	\$216,274
Contributions-restricted	\$423,995
Sponsorships	\$74,500
Program Revenue	\$34,652
Member Revenue	\$149,962
Interest/Other Income	\$1,253
Net Assets released from restrictions and/or satisfaction of program restrictions	\$288,697
Total Revenue and Other Support	\$900,636



Expenses

Program Expenses	
Advocacy/Public Policy	\$23,037
Professional Development	\$79,016
Member Services	\$60,625
STEM Program	\$218,592
Fundraising	\$46,792
Administrative	\$269,727
Total Expenses	\$697,789
Change in Net Assets	\$202,847
Net Assets-Beginning	\$344,994
Net Assets-Ending	\$547,841



2017-2018 DONOR RECOGNITION

MISF would like to thank the special donors who graciously support independent and private education through gifts of cash, stock, and in-kind donations. The following businesses, corporations, foundations, and individuals made contributions between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018

\$100,000 and above

3M Foundation*

\$40,000 to \$99,999

Katherine B. Andersen Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation
Helen Harrington Charitable Trust*

\$25,000 to \$39,999

General Mills Foundation*
Hardenbergh Foundation*
Schott Foundation*
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation*

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Mr. & Mrs. William B. Frels/Frels Family Foundation
Rosa M. Miller*
RBC Wealth Management*
Estate of Scott Nelson

\$5000 - \$9,999

Mairs and Power

\$3000 - \$4999

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Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
Jon and Lea Theobald*

\$1000 - \$2999

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\$500 - \$999

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* Denotes donors who have supported MISF for 10 or more years.

BE INDEPENDENT, NOT ALONE.



“I am entirely convinced that MISF will be critical to the current and future education available to the students of MN.”

- Testimonial



"I left with a lot of great hands-on ideas to get students active and excited about learning. We are so grateful for MISF and your passion for STEM education. We have received grants from MISF and it has been so transformative for our students and our school. THANK YOU!" - STEM Education Conference Attendee

"Thank you for supporting the students and staff at our school with your generous grant for STEM education. Your gift helps us meet the critical needs of our school, as we expand the program we offer our students." - STEM Grant Recipient





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www.misf.org



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