

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



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Letter from the President

In the spirit of encouraging a restful and refreshing summer, we have intentionally kept this July e-newsletter fairly brief.

Check out the offerings for the [STEM Education Conference](#). There are lots of impactful and important sessions that will jumpstart your 2019-20 academic calendar.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the [2019 School Leadership Conference](#). This is the premier gathering of private school leaders from across MN. Registration will open in early August. Topics will include blended learning, data and programs focused around retention of private schools educators, plus important updates to federal programs. Don't miss a chance to connect with your colleagues and recharge your batteries after the start of school.

Remember, you may have Title funds available to cover your participation in these opportunities. Check with your district on eligibility.

Membership renewal statements were sent last week, and we hope to build on our superb retention rate of 94% from the last two years. Please know, every school is critical in our collaborative effort to bring a strong and united voice for private schools. If you have questions about your membership, please contact me. Our goal is to meet the needs of our leaders, educators and schools.

If you are not currently a member, and would like to join, [please contact me](#) about the new member incentive we have in place.

Thank you to our outgoing board members Greg Chamberlain, Tom Delich and Randy Kroll. They have served MISF and our member schools with great focus, passion and exceptional commitment. We are thankful and grateful for their service.



Tim Benz
President

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HOPE BEGINS WITH A MEAL
You can make a difference for an entire family



Call 651.222.4949 or email thanksgiving@ugmtc.org for more information.

The July Newsletter is sponsored by Thrivent Financial

For many of us, Thanksgiving is all about food, family, and football. But if you're among the more than **321,800 Twin Cities-area residents who live in poverty or experience food insecurity**, Thanksgiving is just another Thursday.

We are teaming up with **Union Gospel Mission, Minnesota Gopher Football, and Cub Foods** again this year to support [Heart for Hunger](#), a campaign to help raise money and food donations for the Mission's Thanksgiving food distribution.

Join us for several open houses across the metro area, taking place this week! **Anyone who donates a FULL bag of groceries** using the Thanksgiving Bag Grocery List (or a \$35 donation) at one of our open houses will receive a **MyPillow and 2 tickets to the October 26th Gopher Football Game vs. Maryland***. [Click here for locations](#).

KEVIN SZOZDA

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Direct 612-709-3446

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*MyPillow and tickets available while supplies last

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2019 STEM Education Conference

(Earn 5 CEUs by attending the conference)

Thursday, August 8th, 2019
8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.
Benilde-St. Margaret's School
St. Louis Park

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!](#)

Open to all school educators and leaders
(See member and nonmember rates below)

2019 CONFERENCE FEATURES

- Presenters you know and love as well as some interesting new ones
- More breakout sessions by teachers from MISF member schools, including many presentations about STEM grant projects and a follow up to last year's Makerspace Mashup
- A selection of traditional one-hour breakout sessions and longer (135 minute) intensives

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

[Click here](#) to view descriptions of breakout sessions including recommended grade ranges. You will choose your breakout sessions upon registering. Register early to ensure that you are able to attend the breakout sessions of your choice.

Space is limited for the first 25 people for each session.

FEATURED BREAKOUT SESSION: MISF STEM GRANTS

Have you considered submitting a STEM Grant but are unsure where to start? Bring your questions about the MISF STEM Grant Program and your ideas for STEM Grant projects to discuss with MISF's STEM program manager and the people who review Grant applications. MISF's STEM Advisory Committee includes engineers, scientists and educators from the community who are eager to talk with you about developing a strong project and writing a winning proposal. (Grades K - 12)

SPONSOR EXHIBITORS

Sponsor exhibitors will be available to showcase the products and services offered to the STEM education community.

2019 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Gillian Roehrig
Institute on the Environment Fellow Professor, STEM Education
University of Minnesota

Dr. Roehrig is a professor of STEM Education at the University of Minnesota. Her research explores issues of professional development for K-12 science teachers, with a focus on beginning teachers and implementation of integrated STEM learning environments. She has received over \$30 million in federal and state grants and published over 80 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters. She is a former board member of the National Association of Research in Science Teaching and past president of the Association for Science Teacher Education.

REGISTRATION & FEES

- MISF Member schools: \$65
- Non-Members schools: \$165
- **Title Funds may be available to cover registration fees. Check with your local school district for more details.**
- Your school does not need to be a member of MISF to attend.
- Registration fee includes breakfast, lunch, afternoon refreshments, and free parking.
- Registration fees are nonrefundable; however, registrations are transferable.
- **Last day to register is Friday, August 2, 2019**

If you have any registration questions please contact Michele Skare at 651-297-6716.

[**Register Now!**](#)

[**STEM Program Sponsors**](#)

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Membership Renewal

Renewal invoices were mailed to member schools on July 1st. If you have any questions about your invoice, contact Debbie Kaliszewski, Business Manager, at 651-424-4931 or dkalis@misf.org.

We want you to maximize your membership in MISF. Make sure you know all about the programming and opportunities that are available to you. [Click here for a brief outline of membership benefits, and a preliminary calendar for the 2019-2020 school year.](#)

Remember, being independent doesn't mean you have to be alone. With our unified voice, we are

stronger together! Thank you for your continued membership in MISF, and we look forward to serving you in the 2019-2020 school year.

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Not an MISF member school? Join us today!

New member incentives are now available

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

We invite you to [learn more about membership](#) in our cohort of over 150 schools throughout the state.

New member incentives are available. If you have questions, please contact Tim Benz at 651-424-4929 or tbenz@misf.org

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2019 School Leadership Conference

Save the date ~ September 23-25, 2019

Summer is just getting started, but we're already thinking about our annual fall gathering at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge in Deerwood, MN. Registration for this popular event opens in August, so watch your email box and [check out our event page](#) for more information.

PS: Incentives available for first time attendees!

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School Indoor Air Quality Training

This training will discuss the state's best practices for school indoor air quality (IAQ) management, as well as health and safety programs that comply with environmental regulations. Sessions are open to both public and nonpublic schools. Continuing education credits are available for several licenses.

Dates

- Roseville: September 17, 2019 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Rochester: September 24, 2019 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Roseville: September 30, 2019 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
- St. Cloud: October 9, 2019 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Fergus Falls: October 10, 2019 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Webinar: October 15, 2019 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

For more information and to register

www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/air/schools/training.html

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Dates to Remember:

- July 1, 2019 Membership renewal invoices for 2019-20 school year sent

- August 8, 2019: STEM Education Conference
- September 23-25, 2019: School Leadership Conference



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