

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**

Registration continues through September 16 for the 2019 School Leadership Conference. [For a look at the agenda and schedule, click here.](#) More than 55 school leaders are registered - come and experience a unique opportunity to connect and network with your fellow leaders across all private schools.

Thank you for the tremendous feedback to our needs assessment survey. We received more than 100 responses, and are reviewing the information to develop content for our professional development offerings for the near future.

I had a wonderful chance to visit four of our member schools this week - Central MN Christian, Maplewood Academy, St. Philip's and Holy Trinity Schools. Think about this: combined, these four schools have provided more than 400 years of education to their communities. Their legacy is significant as they continue to meet the educational needs of their students.

Interested in joining MISF? [Contact me for information.](#) The more members in our network, the greater impact we have in our public voice.



Tim Benz  
President

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Follow me on Twitter

[@misfprez](#)

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**The September Newsletter  
is sponsored by  
Thrivent Financial**

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



Call 651.222.4949 or email [thanksgiving@ggmtc.org](mailto:thanksgiving@ggmtc.org) for more information

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**

Community Engagement

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\*MyPillow and tickets available while supplies last

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## September STEM Scoop

### MISF District Membership Science Museum's Educator Resource Center (Formerly Science House)

The Educator Resource Center Lending Library is a professional home for teachers at the Science Museum of Minnesota. MISF member schools that register to join the MISF district membership receive unlimited use of the Educator Resource Center for all teachers at your school. The Center provides a welcoming atmosphere that lends itself to comfortable open conversation, supports new teachers, and rejuvenates veteran teachers.

[Visit our website for more information.](#)

### 2019 Science Standards

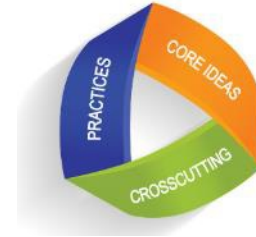
The 2019 Science Standards have been approved by the Commissioner of Education. Since the 2019 standards and benchmarks reflect several changes in understanding about science learning and made several changes in grade placement of benchmarks, you are encouraged to read the introduction to the standards carefully.

- The standards are available at the bottom of the MDE Science website. <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/stds/sci/> This document may be used for planning curriculum and instruction.
- The date for full implementation is likely to be the 2023-24 school year, with the science MCA (statewide test) to start assessing the new standards and benchmarks.
- The standards become law through the Minnesota Rulemaking process which may take one-two years.

## MnSTA Conference on Science Education

*November 7-9, St. Cloud*

Raising the Standard of Science Education in Minnesota is the theme of the Minnesota Science Teachers Association annual conference. Learn how to incorporate the new science standards in your classroom. Check out a variety of presentations from across the nation. Visit the vendors to view new curriculum materials and equipment. This year the venue is the Rivers Edge Conference Center in St. Cloud.



Conference information and registration is at the MnSTA website. [https://www.mnsta.org/cgi/page.cgi/2019\\_Conference.html](https://www.mnsta.org/cgi/page.cgi/2019_Conference.html)



## STEM Education Conference

Place article copy here. Be sure to make the articles short and concise as people tend not to read much more than a couple of

paragraphs.

Tuesday, December 3rd at the University of Minnesota's Continuing Education Center, St. Paul [Click here for more information and to register!](#) (Early rates apply.)

## Science and Engineering Competitions

Minnesota Science Olympiad

<http://www.minnesotaso.org/>

Science and Engineering Fair and Science Bowl

<http://www.mnmas.org/>

FIRST Lego League, FIRST Tech Challenge, FIRST Robotics

<https://hightechkids.org/>

Supermileage Challenge

<https://www.mteea.net/index.php/competitions/supermileage>

Real World Design Challenge

<http://www.realworlddesignchallenge.org/>

Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision

<https://www.exploravision.org/>

NSTA Angela Award - girls grades 5 - 8

<https://www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx#angela>

MN Scholars of Distinction - high school

<https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/gifted/sod/>

## Minnesota Programs and Competitions

Many competitions, out-of-school programs and field trip opportunities are posted at the [Mn-STEM website](#) and listed in the Reach for the Stars Catalog of Programs and Activities. <https://synergyexchange.org/Synergy/media/Reach/2018/reach-2018.pdf>

## MDE September Science Update

[Click here](#) to read the Minnesota Department of Education September Science Update.

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## Membership Renewal

**It's not too late to renew your MISF membership.** If you have any questions about, or need another copy of your invoice, contact Debbie Kaliszewski, Business Manager, at 651-424-4931 or [dkalis@misf.org](mailto: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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## 2019 School Leadership Conference

*Registration Ends on Monday, September 16th*

This year's agenda is filled with relevant, timely and helpful topics for school leaders. You'll receive high quality professional development (10 continuing education clock hours) and have a chance to relax and recharge after a busy few weeks.

**Dates: September 23-25, 2019**

**Location: Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge, Deerwood, Minnesota**

**Conference sessions include:**

- Blended Learning
- Forum for Inducting, Retaining, and Supporting Teachers (F.I.R.S.T.) (2019 MISF Program Award Winner)
- Teacher Retention in Private Schools
- Employment Law/HR Topics (If you have a specific topic or question for Phyllis Karasov, [please enter it here.](#))
- Equitable Services for Private Schools
- Educational Leadership as Vocation

We invite you to join more than fifty of your colleagues at this unique opportunity to connect and network with other leaders

[Click here for pricing and registration information.](#) Registration ends on Monday, September 16th. Don't miss out!

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## Social Media Made Easy: Nine Ways to Create Awesome Content

## Marketing Professional Development Seminar/Webinar

Thursday, October 24, 2019

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Sunrise Bank Building, Hwy 280 & 94, St. Paul

We all struggle with getting good content to share on social media. You are a small department (or maybe even just one person) - so you can't be everywhere! Andrea Gribble is here to help. Learn from Andrea's extensive work with schools across the county on how you can post more than 2 times per day, drive engagement and reach more than 5,000 people a week just on Facebook. Andrea will share 9 proven strategies that work and breakdown the details with how to implement the strategies at your school. Come with your questions and fears about social media and leave with some easy to implement steps.



**Andrea Gribble**  
**#SocialSchool4EDU**

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

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## School Indoor Air Quality Training

Public schools must have health and safety programs that comply with health, safety, and environmental regulations and best practices, including indoor air quality (IAQ) management. One best practice is that public schools have an IAQ Coordinator.

This training will discuss the state's best practices for school IAQ management. Continuing education credits are available for several licenses. There is no refresher training requirement, but school staff are encouraged to attend every few years. Course content is updated every year.

**Non-public schools, service providers and other stakeholders are also encouraged to attend.**

### Attend in person or via webinar

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

Find more information and register here:

[www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/air/schools/training.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/air/schools/training.html)

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### Dates to Remember:

- September 23-25, 2019: School Leadership Conference
- October 24, 2019: Marketing Professional Development Seminar/Webinar

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