

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



In the January Newsletter

[Letter from the President](#)

[Social-Emotional Professional Development Seminar](#)

[Nominations for the Private and Independent Education Awards](#)

[STEM Grant Letters of Interest Due TODAY \(January 14, 2020\)](#)

[STEM Scoop](#)

[Minnesota Nonpublic Education Conference](#)

[CAPE Outlook](#)

[Dates to Remember](#)

Letter from the President

A very happy 2020 to all!

Don't forget to register for the upcoming **Minnesota Department of Education Nonpublic Education Conference on Friday, February 21**. The agenda will include great opportunities to hear from staff at MDE about the many programs, resources and contacts available to nonpublic schools, educators and students. Come with your questions on nonpublic pupil aids, federal title programs, transportation or other topics of note. You will also learn about the Nonpublic Education Council and its role as the official representative body to MDE. [Here is a link to register for the conference](#) .

Nominations for the 12th annual [Private and Independent Education Awards](#) are open. This event is a unique opportunity to celebrate and recognize the excellence found in private and independent schools. We all know a special person, program or member of our community that deserves recognition. To learn about our 2019 recipients, check out the [awards videos](#).

The 2020 legislative session begins on February 11, 2020. The key priorities that MISF will pursue include the expansion of the guidance and counseling portion of the MN Nonpublic Aids program to include elementary students. We will also continue our work on school choice and eligibility of nonpublic schools in school security/safety funding.

Keep your eyes out for more professional development opportunities in the next several months. If you have some ideas, or potential presenters, feel free to email me.

Thank you for your support and commitment to private and independent education.



Tim Benz
President

Follow me on Twitter
[@misfprez](#)

[Back to top](#)

Professional Development Seminar/Webinar Social-Emotional Development

"I Can't Think When I Am Stressed Out: Neuroscience and the Adolescent Brain"

Open to ALL MISF member and nonmember private and independent schools!

Date: Thursday, February 6th from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location: Sunrise Bank Corporate Headquarters, 2525 Wabash Avenue, St. Paul 55114

Directions: [Click Here](#)

Sponsored By:



Presenter

Jody Burns - National Curriculum Specialist, [Edgenuity](#)

Seminar/Webinar Content

Teenage stress is on the rise. From bullying and social media to problems at home and at school, the list of stressors is long. Looking through the lens of neuroscience, educators will understand the strong connection between social, emotional and academic learning, and the effectiveness of SEL skills.

Presentation Outcomes Include:

- Understanding the Developing Teenage Brain
- Proactive Options for Social & Emotional Learning
- Strategies to Address the Prevalent Physical and Mental Health Issues of Educators and Students

Presenter Bio

Jody Burns - National Curriculum Specialist, Edgenuity

Jody Burns completed her master's degree in Educational Technology in 2011, which was also the year she checked-off a bucket list item by visiting her 50th state. She has a background in professional development and is currently a National Curriculum Specialist at Edgenuity. Jody remembers her 14 years of teaching high school English with laughter and love, but her real joy is being Aunt Jo to the Magnificent Seven (6 nieces & 1 nephew) ... and her "skyping" dog, Scout!

Take advantage of this opportunity to earn CEU Credits!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Seminar Cost

- MISF Member Schools - First in-person attendee: Free
- MISF Member Schools - Additional in-person attendees: \$25
- [Click HERE](#) to see if your school is a member of MISF
- Nonmember school staff: \$65 per person
- **Registration for the seminar includes lunch, all presentation materials and access to recorded webinar on member portal**

Webinar Cost

- MISF member school staff: FREE
- Nonmember school staff: \$25

Final Logistics Email

- Emailed to all in-person and webinar registrants on Wed. February 5th before 12:00 p.m.

Registration is open through Monday, February 3rd, 2020

***CANCELLATION/NO-SHOW POLICY:**

Registration fees paid are nonrefundable; however, they may be transferred to another staff member (including board members, committee members, volunteers, or any individual affiliated with your school community). Cancellations for unpaid registrants who notify MISF less than 48 hours of the seminar or do not show up to the event will be charged as follows: **MEMBERS - \$25; NONMEMBERS - \$65**

[Back to Top](#)



Private and Independent Education Awards

MISF is accepting nominations through February 11th for the 2020 Private and Independent Education Awards. All private and independent schools in Minnesota are eligible and encouraged to participate. Nominations may be submitted by students, staff, board members, parents, school leaders, or anyone connected to the school community.

Do you know an exceptional educator? How about the volunteer who handles lots of assignments? Who has made a difference in your community by their philanthropy? Take the time to nominate them in one of the following categories.

Behind the Scenes

This award recognizes the quiet and essential work of an individual who supports the school outside the classroom. These individuals go out of their way to make the school environment welcoming, friendly, and caring. School staff, coaches, volunteers and other behind the scenes workers may be nominated for this award.

Community Champion

This award celebrates the work of an individual or group that has benefited a school and the community in which the school is located. Board members, donors, and other school supporters may be nominated for this award.

Program

This award highlights an innovative or successful program that supports engagement and academic achievement for the school, students, or faculty.

Leadership

This award recognizes the hard work and dedication of school heads, presidents, principals, superintendents, or executive directors.

Honor Teacher

This award recognizes that special teacher at a school, who has a passion for students and education. They're creative, innovative, fair and compassionate, and they model integrity and excellence. They are involved in their communities, and they achieve exceptional outcomes.

The event will be held on Sunday, April 26, at the University of St. Thomas - James B. Woulfe Alumni Hall, Anderson Student Center.

We encourage including this in your school newsletter and routing around to your entire school

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION](#)

If you would like to preview the questions on the nomination form, [click here](#).

[Back to Top](#)



January STEM Scoop

STEM Grant Letters of Interest must be received by 6 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

Reminder: An LOI is required in order to submit a full grant application.

STEM Grant Proposals must be received by 6:00 p.m. are due no later than 6:00 pm on Tuesday, February 18, 2020. Please review the STEM Grant program materials by clicking on the link: www.misf.org/stem-grants/

We look forward to learning about your STEM projects. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Murphy, STEM Program Manager at bmurphy@misf.org, 612-270-0194, or Lisa Vosbeek, Director of Development & Programs at lvosbeek@misf.org, 651-424-4930.

3M Twist Program

[The 3M Twist Program](#) allows middle and high school math, science, and technology teachers to spend six weeks during the summer working closely with a 3M host on an actual 3M research project. The objective is to provide active and challenging technical experiences for teachers in an industrial setting.

- Tour labs and pilot manufacturing facilities
- Receive a stipend of \$4500
- Can earn graduate credit through St. Mary's University of MN (MN and WI only)

Program Dates: June 15-July 24, 2020
Minnesota Applications Due: January 17, 2020
Outstate Applications Due: February 21, 2020

[Click here for more information.](#)

Webinar-Designing Inclusive Science Learning Environments: Supporting Students Who Receive Special Education Services

Description: Students receiving special educational services have a right to experience a PK-12 science education that fully integrates their presence. Inclusive science experiences that go beyond removing barriers and create learning environments that leverage student interest, identity and ability. This webinar builds on the ideas and tools

we developed in STEM Teaching Tool #59 to explore how instruction can be designed to enable deep and meaningful science learning for students receiving special education services.

Link to webinar:

<http://stemteachingtools.org/sp/webinar-on-stt59>

YOUNG MENTOR & YOUNG LEADERSHIP AWARDS

For youth involved with FIRST LEGO League High Tech Kids is happy to offer two \$250 youth scholarships, the Young Mentor and Young Leadership Awards, for Minnesota students between the ages of 14-18 who have had an impact on a Minnesota FIRST LEGO League team or community.

Nominations are due by January 20, 2020. Finalists will be interviewed in early February via Skype or in person. Winners will be notified by February 21 and will be acknowledged during the awards ceremony at the MN FIRST LEGO League State Championship on February 22.

For more information and how to apply please see the FLL Youth Awards page:

<https://hightechkids.org/ftc-overview/scholarships-and-awards/#1542146660455-df8424af-7631>

Schoolyard Gardens Conference, March 6, Chaska

Schoolyard gardens are a successful, growing part of Minnesota schools, and provide an incomparable, hands-on opportunity for educators and students. Join us for this annual conference to:

- Learn how to meet academic standards through gardening
- Discover ways to engage with community partners and the school board to sustain your project
- Explore the latest research and best practices in agriculture, healthy eating, cultural competency, natural systems and more
- Apply innovative strategies for building, sustaining, and engaging diverse learners in a thriving schoolyard garden

For more information - <https://www.arboretum.umn.edu/Schoolyards2019.aspx>

MDE Science Update

Read the latest edition of the [MDE Science Update](#) here.

[Back to Top](#)



Register Now for the Minnesota Nonpublic Education Conference

Nonpublic school administrators may register now for the Minnesota Nonpublic Education Conference, held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on Friday, February 21, 2020. It will be held at the

Minnesota Department of Education, 1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, in Conference Center B, Rooms 15-16.

There is no charge for the conference. Registrants may bring a bag lunch or choose to eat at one of the Roseville area restaurants. A list of the many venues will be provided at the conference and adequate time allowed.

Topics will include:

- Minnesota Nonpublic Education Council
- Federal Title Programs
- State Aids to Nonpublic Students
- Special Education
- Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB)
- District-provided Transportation
- Gifted and Talented Symposium

Click here to register for the [Minnesota Nonpublic Education Conference](#). For more information, contact MDE ombudsperson [Cindy Jackson](#) (651-582-8572).

[Back to Top](#)



The January issue of CAPE Outlook is available [here](#).

[Back to Top](#)

Dates to Remember:

- February 6, 2020: Social/Emotional Professional Development Seminar
- February 18, 2020: STEM Grant applications due (by 6:00 pm)
- February 21, 2020: Minnesota Nonpublic Education Conference at MDE
- April 26, 2020: MISF Private and Independent Education Awards



[Back to Top](#)

MISF | 651-297-6716 | info@misf.org | www.misf.org

STAY CONNECTED WITH MISF:



Please note: If you unsubscribe from this email, you will be removed from all email communication from MISF, including STEM opportunities, conference and seminar information, and advocacy updates. You may instead [click here to modify your email preferences](#). Thank you.