

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**

This past week, MISF announced the slate of recipients for the [2020 Private and Independent Education Awards](#). These exceptional people and programs are shining examples of the special communities found in private and independent schools across Minnesota. To register, become a sponsor or advertise in the program, check out the [event page](#) and plan to join us on April 26, at the University of St. Thomas. I promise you will be inspired and energized by their stories and the fierce commitment to their school communities.

MISF is in communication and serving as a primary conduit with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to ensure private and independent schools have the latest information and guidance on COVID-19.

We have created a [dedicated webpage](#) which includes helpful resources and pertinent updates. This page will be updated periodically or as necessary.

As you may know, a primary legislative priority for MISF is to expand guidance and counseling services to elementary students (K-6) in private and independent schools. This bill, [Senate File 580](#), was heard in the Senate E-12 Education and Policy Committee. Thank you to Robin Alcalá Saner, a school counselor serving nonpublic schools in Rochester, for providing compelling testimony and her experience as a counselor "on the front lines" with students. MISF testified in support of this proposed legislation on behalf of the more than 65,000 students in private and independent schools in Minnesota. Here is a [link to the Senate hearing, including the testimony](#). The bill hearing begins around the 5 minutes mark, and lasts for approximately 15 minutes.

Thank you for supporting private and independent education and KIDS!



Tim Benz  
President

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## COVID-19 and Nonpublic Schools

In an effort to provide the latest and most pertinent information, MISF has collected the following resources and learning opportunities for schools on the Corona Virus (COVID-19) on a dedicated webpage which can be found here: <http://misf.org/covid19/>

If your school has a preparedness or readiness plan developed and are willing to share with other private and independent schools, MISF is willing to serve as a conduit for such documentation and resources; send an email to: [office@misf.org](mailto:office@misf.org) or call us at 651-297-6716.

MISF will stay in contact with local education and health officials and provide updates as necessary.

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## Weekly Call/Webinars from MN Department of Health

Experts from the Minnesota Department of Health will host a weekly call/webinar at **10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays** to update school nurses, administrators, and superintendents on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and answer questions.

Please feel free to forward this invitation to anyone on your team who will be a part of these conversations at your district.

Presenters:

Epidemiologist Kathy Como-Sabetti  
Epidemiologist Susan Klammer  
School Health Consultant Erika Yoney

**K-12 Stakeholder Outreach (COVID-19)**

**Date: Every Wednesday, from March 4, 2020 to May 6, 2020**

**Time: 10:30 a.m., Central Standard Time (Chicago, GMT-06:00)**

**Session number: 968 776 855**

**Session password: Oshii2020#**

<https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/k2/j.php?MTID=t5457d0025ccbfcd39beed0855acdf3a>

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## Private and Independent Education Awards

Sunday, April 26, 2020

4:00 PM

University of St. Thomas  
James B. Woulfe Alumni Hall

MISF is proud to announce the winners of the 12th Annual Private and Independent Education Awards. The people recognized at this awards celebration exemplify the strengths of our schools, the support of the community, and the many notable efforts to improve K-12 education in Minnesota.

Registration is now open! Click on the link below. We hope you will join us to celebrate the 2020 Honorees.

[Click here to REGISTER](#)

## Award Recipients

Honor Teacher K-8  
Jenelle Fackler  
St. Odilia Catholic School

Honor Teacher 9-12  
Jen Lopez  
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School

Leadership  
Barry Lieske  
DeLaSalle High School

Leadership  
Sue Skinner  
Benilde-St. Margaret's School

Community Champion  
Steve Hoepfner  
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation

Behind the Scenes  
Jessica Martinez  
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School

Program Award  
Totino-Grace Service Immersion Program  
Totino-Grace High School

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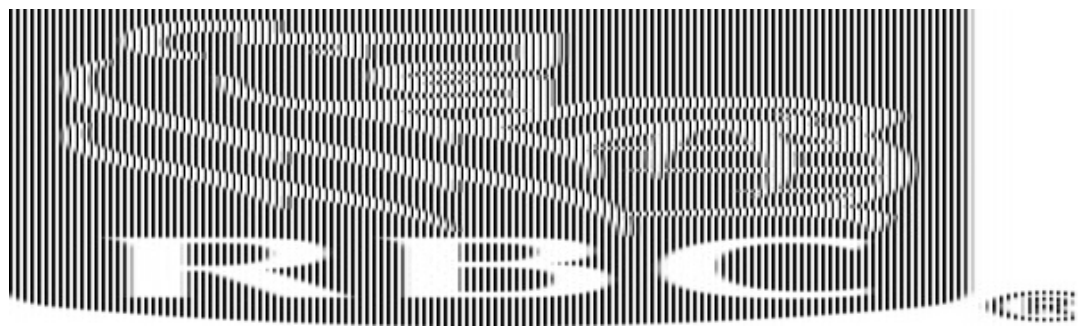
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## Take Your School Out to the Ballgame!

MISF has a great opportunity for your school to treat your staff, students, volunteers and families to a day out at a Minnesota Twins game. MISF received 600 Twins tickets, 50 for each game listed below from the Twins organization to give away to our member schools.



Here are the dates and times of the games:

- Sunday April 5th - 1:10 vs Oakland
- Friday April 17th - 7:10 vs Detroit
- Monday April 20th - 6:40 vs Seattle
- Tuesday April 21st - 6:40 vs Seattle
- Wednesday April 22nd - 6:40 vs Seattle
- Thursday April 23rd - 12:10 vs Seattle
- Monday May 4th - 6:40 vs SF
- Tuesday May 5th - 6:40 vs SF
- Wednesday May 6th - 12:10 vs SF
- Tuesday May 19th - 6:40 vs Baltimore
- Wednesday May 20th - 12:10 vs Baltimore
- Thursday May 21st - 6:40 vs CWS

If your school is interested in 50 tickets for one of the games listed above email Lisa Vosbeek at [lvosbeek@misf.org](mailto:lvosbeek@misf.org) with your top 3 date preferences. You will be entered into a drawing to be held on or before 3-27-2020. The tickets will be distributed electronically to your school. Go TWINS!!

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## March STEM Scoop

Save the Date: MISF STEM Education Conference

The conference, open to all independent schools in Minnesota, offers breakout sessions for K-12 school educators, and draws presenters from K-12, higher education, STEM businesses, and the professional community. The conference addresses the need for on-going support for teachers to develop skills in using hands-on learning activities to foster inquiry, problem-solving and engineering design processes and to deepen their knowledge of science and math content.

**August 6, 2020, at Benilde-St. Margaret's School  
2501 Highway 100 S, Minneapolis, MN 55416.**

### Call for Presenters for the MISF STEM Education Conference

Several breakout sessions at the 2019 Conference were presented by teachers from MISF member schools, a highlight of the conference. Thus, the 2020 conference will continue to provide a selection of breakout sessions that allow teachers to share effective resources, expertise, lessons, and strategies. Presentation proposals from individual or groups of teachers are welcome.

All interested presenters must complete the [session proposal form](#) before 5:00pm on March 23, 2020, so we can provide a complete conference program when registration opens on May 1, 2020.



## Engineering and Engineering Technology STEM Teacher Workshop

Thursday, May 14, 2020 - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Professional Development Opportunity for Secondary and Post-Secondary STEM Educators!

### WHERE

Inver Hills Community College | Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota

### KEYNOTE

Implicit Bias | Understanding where these biases come from, how they affect learning and the workplace and techniques to address them.

### SECONDARY STEM EDUCATORS TRACK

Secondary STEM educators will learn about Attracting Underrepresented Populations to STEM Fields and be eligible to earn Four Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

### LEARN MORE

<http://engineering.mnsu.edu/engineering-teacher-training/>



## STEM Day at the Fair: August 27, 2020

STEM Day returns for the opening day of the Minnesota State Fair on Thursday, Aug. 27th from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM in the Dan Patch Park just outside the grandstand. State Fair visitors will find over 30 exhibitors with hands-on activities and interactive demonstrations designed for youth of all ages. Last year was a great success with over 17,000 youth and adults estimated to attend the event.

Exhibitors and stage performances for STEM Day at the Fair are chosen to represent a broad range of STEM interest areas allowing visitors to explore how everyday objects, systems and buildings are driven by science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.



[Contact SciMathMN](#) to learn more about exhibiting at this event!

## WOW! That's Engineering!

**Saturday, April 25th, 2020 at Dunwoody College from 9AM to 4PM.**

Wow! Is an award winning program that includes:

- Learning from real engineers and college students
- Completing hands-on engineering experiments to learn about STEM fields
- Transportation to and from the event
- Breakfast and lunch, plus a t-shirt and more!

The event is free to attend for female students in grades 6 - 8. While all female middle school students are welcome to attend, we prefer students on the free or reduced lunch programs. Students need to be present for the entire event day, from 9am - 4pm.

[Click here to view flyer with event details.](#) This event is capped at 120 students and we fill registration on a first come first serve basis. We will be closing registration on Monday, March 30th - so please sign up now!

## High School Innovation Camp

This camp will introduce basic principles and best practices of the innovation process and provide the opportunity to develop and present an innovation plan.



Space is limited to 30 campers. Please register early. [LEARN MORE HERE](#)

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## Admissions/Marketing Professional Development Webinar

**Date: Thursday, April 2, 2020**

**Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Sponsored By:



Back by popular demand - an Admissions/Marketing Webinar with **Rick Newberry, President, Enrollment Catalyst.**

**Click here to  
REGISTER**

### **Presenter Bio**

Rick Newberry, Ph.D., is the President of Enrollment Catalyst. Rick partners with school administrators to provide coaching and consulting in enrollment management and marketing systems, strategies, and solutions needed to reach their goals. The goal is to provide school leaders with effective marketing and enrollment strategies as well as staff accountability, direction and results needed to grow their enrollment.

His expertise in enrollment management strategies, marketing planning and institutional brand development provides in-depth educational consultation to independent, private and faith-based schools across the nation. With over 25 years of educational leadership experience in both higher education and K-12 levels, Rick has served as the executive director of development and enrollment management at a private university and as well as head of a large private school.

Through his successes and expertise, Rick has helped many schools throughout the nation achieve their strategic marketing and enrollment goals.

Rick holds a Ph.D. from Michigan State University in educational leadership and is a regular speaker at many educational conferences on the topics of marketing, branding, enrollment management and leadership.

### **Take advantage of this opportunity to earn CEU Credits!**

#### **Webinar Cost**

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

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### **Important Dates to Remember**

- April 2, 2020: Admissions/Marketing Webinar with Rick Newberry
- April 26, 2020: MISF Private and Independent Education Awards
- August 6, 2020: MISF STEM Education Conference at Benilde-St. Margaret's
- September 28-30: MISF School Leadership Conference at Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort

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