



April 2021 Newsletter

Be Independent, not alone

MISF Leadership Series

SAVE THE DATE!
April 21, 2021

Creating an Effective
and Healthy Workplace
Culture.

[Read more](#)

Rick Newberry's Enrollment Catalyst Spring Training Series March 22 - May 3

A full 9-inning webinar
series to gain strategic
and practical insight
heading into this next
enrollment season.

Free and available to all
school leaders!

[Read more](#)

MISF/Science from Scientists STEM Residency Program Opportunity!

[Read more](#)

Dear Friends of Private and Independent Education:

The application period for the Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools continues until April 27, 2021. If you have specific questions on allowable or qualifying expenses, contact Anita Tayson at eans.mde@state.mn.us. More information can be found on the [MISF EANS page](#). Thanks to [Catapult Learning](#) for their sponsorship, tools and resources on ways to maximize your school's EANS funding.

Since launching the new member resource [The Vault from Care Counseling](#), many educators, leaders, and staff members have completed several modules. For more information on this valuable resource, check out the links below.

At their March meeting, the MISF Board of Directors approved an increase in membership dues for the 2021-22 school year from \$4.75 to \$5.00/student. Membership dues for Associate Member and schools with enrollments under 56 students will increase from \$265 to \$275. Questions about member benefits and new member incentives? [Feel free to email me for more information](#). Join our growing network of private and independent schools!

Mark your calendar for September 27-29 for the 2021 School Leadership Conference. The conference committee is making plans for an in-person experience, with modifications as necessary. It's guaranteed to be a meaningful, reflective and refreshing experience. Look for more information in the coming months. Save the dates to take the opportunity to connect with school leaders from across Minnesota.

Please see the important legislative update below. During the next month, it's critical that nonpublic schools raise their voices to ensure key provisions benefiting nonpublic schools are included in final negotiations.

The last 13 months have illustrated the critical need for an all-inclusive organization connecting and supporting private and independent schools across Minnesota. Thank you for your firm commitment and investment in the MISF mission.

MISF STEM
Learning
Community

Tim Benz
President

Read more



This newsletter sponsored by Gradelink

3 Reasons Families Leave Schools and How to Retain Them

Do you know three of the biggest reasons families leave schools? Here they are – and what you can do about it. Understanding why families choose to leave your school can help you to address their issues and prevent others from leaving for the same reasons. NCEA recommends making retention an official task for a member of your

team and increased **website marketing**. Increased options for schooling and competition for students means that families need to be reminded why they enrolled with you in the first place. **Keep reading.**

Want to consolidate student records? Use coupon code MISF at gradelink.com/pricing to get your discount or contact Steve Lockwood directly.

Steven Lockwood
MISF Sponsor at Gradelink
(949) 682-7019 Cell
26741 Portola Pkwy #1E-649 Foothill Ranch, CA 92610
steve@gradelink.com

2021 Private & Independent Education Awards
Thursday, April 29, 2021
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join us virtually to celebrate and recognize the educators, leaders, staff, programs and volunteers that exemplify the excellence found in Minnesota's private and independent schools and their communities.

BEHIND THE SCENES
Melissa Schleppenbach
Pine Harbor Christian Academy

COMMUNITY CHAMPION
Robert and Teri Crosby
Academy of Whole Learning

PROGRAM AWARD
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School College Success Program
Raquel Gudiel, Director of College Counseling

HONOR TEACHER K-8

Anne Flynn
St. Charles Borromeo School

HONOR TEACHER 9-12
Trish Flock-Johnson
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School

LEADERSHIP
Mary Gangelhoff
St. Mary's Catholic School, Sleepy Eye

LEADERSHIP
Andrew Hilliker
St. Joseph School, Moorhead and
Diocese of Crookston, MN

Learn more and register at www.misf.org

2021 STEM Grant Recipients

MISF awarded STEM Grants totaling more than \$56,000 to 17 MISF member schools for projects to be implemented during the 2021-22 school year. Following is a list of the Innovation, Sustainability and Starter Grant awardees and their projects.

STEM Innovation Grants

Academy of Holy Angels, Richfield
Academy of Whole Learning, Minnetonka
Annunciation School, Minneapolis
Carondelet Catholic School, Minneapolis
Central Minnesota Christian School, Prinsburg
Hill-Murray School, Maplewood
Nativity of Our Lord School, St. Paul
New Life Academy, Woodbury
New Ulm Area Catholic Schools
St. Odilia School, Shoreview
St. Pascal Regional Catholic School, St. Paul
Totino-Grace High School, Fridley

STEM Sustainability Grants

Loyola Catholic School, Mankato
Minnesota Valley Lutheran School, New Ulm
St. Michael Catholic School, St. Michael
Trinity Lutheran School, Waconia

STEM Starter Grants

St. John the Baptist Catholic School, Vermillion

Read more about these schools and their grant projects here.

STEM SCOOP

SAVE THE DATE!
STEM EDUCATION CONFERENCE
August 4, 2021 from 8:00am - 3:45pm
Benilde-St. Margaret's School
2501 Highway 100 S, Minneapolis, MN 55416.

STEM Education Conference Survey

The 2021 STEM Education Conference is currently planned to be held in-person on Wednesday, August 4 at Benilde-St. Margaret's School in St. Louis Park. However, we are also considering virtual and/or hybrid delivery formats. To help the conference committee, **[please click here to complete a three-question survey to indicate your preference for the conference delivery format.](#)** Thank you for your feedback!

MISF/Science from Scientists (SfS) STEM Residency Program Opportunity

Are you looking for a special way to wrap up the school year? Why not give your students the opportunity to participate in hands-on STEM learning with a real scientist?

As part of a STEM education partnership with [Science from Scientists](#), MISF is offering MEMBER SCHOOLS a special opportunity during May 2021 to bring a real scientist to your classroom or students learning from home via live video.

[Read more about this opportunity here.](#)

Minnesota State Engineering Center of Excellence Online Learning Resource Center (OLRC)

The Minnesota State Career and Technical Education Online Learning Resource Center (OLRC), a consolidated source of instructional materials to help secondary and post-secondary educators adapt to the need for ongoing remote or blended instruction. The resources in OLRC have been curated by educators and are free for educators to browse and use.



Resource categories include:

- Online Learning Pedagogy
- Online Learning Technologies
- Discipline-specific Instructional Content including Engineering, Science, and Math, among others!

LEARN MORE - **<https://minnstate.edu/System/CTE/OLRC/>**

MDE Pursuing Changes to K-12 Science Academic Standards and Benchmarks

The proposed 2019 science standards move "Earth and Space Science" from 8th grade to 6th grade, and "Physical Science" from



high school to 8th grade. The standards also place greater emphasis on the teaching of “Earth and Space Science” at the high school level.

More information about the proposed 2019 science standards is available on the [MDE website](#).

Legislative Update

The legislature will be passing budget bills over the coming week. Once bills pass the House and Senate, conference committees will come together to iron out differences. The regular legislative session must adjourn on Monday, May 17.

MISF’s three legislative priorities – (1) expanding school counseling services to grades K-12, (2) extending safe schools revenue to non-public schools, and (3) greater flexibility in working with school districts on non-public transportation services – are all included in SF 960, the Senate Education Budget bill. The House Education Budget bill does not include our priorities but does include an increase in funding for non-public pupil education and non-public pupil transportation aid programs.

It’s important for legislators to hear from school leaders to let them know how important these services are for students and your communities. During the next month, watch for important Advocacy Alerts to communicate with your legislators.

Thank you for supporting non-public schools at the State Capitol. Your advocacy for our legislative priorities will make a difference!

ESEA Title Programs Nonpublic Equitable Services for Nonpublic School Officials

This session will address the spring consultation topics, calculating equitable share in each ESEA Title program, implications of transferring funds from Title IIA and Title IVA into other programs, school participation notification update, and allowable activities. MDE is offering two sessions with the same content: one for Nonpublic School Officials and one for LEA Officials.

Location: **Microsoft Teams**

Date: 5/5/2021

Time: 10:00 - 11:00 AM

New Member Benefit THE VAULT

MISF is proud to announce a partnership with **CARE Counseling** to bring member schools invaluable resources to **teach social and emotional learning (SEL) as well as practice self resiliency**.



The VAULT is a customized online portal uniquely created for MISF member schools. Think of this as an “on-demand” library of videos to support your vocation as a leader, educator, or school staff. **This is a NEW member benefit that we hope you will find helpful.**

SEL provides a foundation for safe and positive learning, and enhances students' ability to succeed in school, careers, and life as well as provides additional support to **LEADERS, EDUCATORS, AND STAFF**.

- The Vault is a **FREE RESOURCE** for MISF member schools

- Each individual user will create their own username and password so they can work through the modules at their own pace
- Videos are divided by topic
- New content will be added monthly
- On-demand, self-paced video resources
- Earn CEUs - certificates will be generated upon completion of each module

[Click here to read more about this new member benefit.](#)

Join the MISF Member School Network

We would like to invite MISF members to join us on the MISF Member School Network, a private, personalized MISF Group, in partnership with ChangeMakers for Impact.

Participation in this collaborative network is a NEW member benefit that we believe will be of high value as we continue to navigate an ambiguous educational environment. There has never been a greater need for leaders to have a place online where they can connect and be resourced that is accessible anytime.

This NEW member benefit will provide member schools with FREE access to our private group - MISF Member School Network and the larger **[ChangeMaker for Impact Network](#)**.

[Click here for more information on this member benefit.](#)

Important Dates to Remember

- Wednesday, April 21: Creating an Effective and Healthy Workplace Culture
- Thursday, April 29: Virtual/Online Private & Independent Education Awards
- Wednesday, May 5: ESEA Title Program Training for Nonpublic Schools
- Wednesday, August 4: STEM Education Conference
- Monday, September 27- Wednesday, September 29: School Leadership Conference

Minnesota Independent School Forum | 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 505, St. Paul, MN 55101-5000

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by tbenz@misf.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!