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Serving All Middle Level and High School Administrators

MoASSP Update March 8, 2018

Video Version: <https://youtu.be/U6S2RKmux0A>

MoASSP Principal,

According to Warren Buffet, "Proximity is power. If you can get proximity with people that are the best in the world, things can happen because all of the people they know, the insights they have and the life experience they have. They can save you a decade of time by one insight." This is why we have conferences and meetings. I know you spend more time in meetings than you would like to. The content may or may not be interesting or of value to you or your school, and you begin to think of problems back at the building. Is there a way you can make the administrative gatherings a bit more engaging? I would suggest you find ways to expand your knowledge of how to run and participate in a quality get-together by attending a meeting outside of your district. You can increase your facilitating expertise and knowledge and increase your network. You will enhance your credibility with your building and district staff. You can be on Twitter and read articles and books, but the real value comes from the wisdom and experience of others. When you are out of the district at other meetings or conferences, you add value to your stable of expertise and aptitudes and can contribute more to the district meetings on your return. It is much more fun to add substance to a meeting by contributing important anecdotes that are new and relevant knowledge for the benefit of the group.

Concerns about Guns and Suicides – Both are on the minds of principals and teachers and your building culture is the biggest key to protect your students. Students need to feel safe and they need to know they can talk to a teacher, counselor, or the principal when they feel uncomfortable. Many students are afraid and as a result, there is a rash of students bringing guns to school all across Missouri. Several rural districts are presently allowing teachers to carry if they go through training. Others are having community meetings to get feedback. The upcoming dates of March 14, and April 20 are great opportunities to discuss school culture, the importance of a safe school, and the value of keeping everyone informed. There is also an inordinate number of students either thinking about, attempting, or completing the process of suicide. If you are unsure where to go for help, you can call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at **1-(800) 237-8255** Missouri also has a [Behavior Help Hotline](#) for your region. Click on the link provided and then click on your region for phone numbers and more information.

Leadership Conferences – Early spring is the time for school leadership conferences. MAESP just finished their conference on Tuesday and they had over 500 registrations. The superintendents will have their conference in early April and the estimated attendance is expected to be in excess of 400 registrations. MoASSP is hoping to serve over 325 principals. Join us March 25-27, at the Lodge of the Four Seasons.

Spring Conference Honorees

Join us as we honor the MoASSP Principal of the Year Selections at the Monday Awards Luncheon



Theresa Wilson
Assistant POY



Bill Powers
Middle Level POY



Jeff Meisenheimer
High School POY

Congratulations to the MoASSP/Walsworth Consummate Professionals. They will be honored at Spring Conference Awards Luncheon on Monday March 26, 2018.

**N.E. - Jesse Uhlmeier – Canton HS
Central – Marc Spunaugle – Lincoln HS
SW – Bryan Bronn - Branson JHS
GKCPMA - Mrs. Cindy O'Brien - Kearney HS
South Central – Monica Fulton – Rolla JHS
St. Louis – Mark Eggers – Sperreng MS, Lindbergh School District
NW – Alan Hutchcraft – Maysville HS
SE – David Haug – Jefferson R-VII HS**

MoASSP Spring Conference “Building a Brand by Telling Your Story”

[Link to MoASSP Website](#) for more information – This the finest assemblage of principals presenting at the breakout sessions that MoASSP has had in my twenty-one years of attending the conferences. The presenters are all great leaders and you will find it difficult to choose which session to attend. Our breakouts are loaded with State and District Principals of the Year and we wish to thank them for continuing to give back to their colleagues:

Renee Trotier, 2018 HS Principal of the Year; Ed Gettemeier, State ML Principal of the Year, 2015; Jeff Meisenheimer, HS Principal of the Year 2019; Jenn Tiller, State ML Principal of the Year, 2013; Sherri Lewis, ML Principal of the Year 2018; Teresa Schulte, South Central District, ML Principal of the Year; Deacon Windsor, Northeast HS Principal of the Year 2017; and of course, many more professionals from National Presenters to DESE.

[Registration form – Online registration](#)

[Lodge of the Four Seasons Reservations](#)

School Safety - MoASSP has prepared a document that might help you walk through a few possibilities, see the attachment. Within that document, you will find references to NASSP ([Considerations for Principals When Students Are Planning an Organized Protest or Walkout](#)) and an article in [EdWeek \(Students Are Walking Out to Protest Gun Violence. What Should School Administrators Do?\)](#).

Other Resources – [Missouri Ed Counsel Student Walkouts & Protests, Frequently Asked Questions Missouri School Boards Association](#) – See the attachment to this email.

[SB 612 Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program](#) was on the Senate floor again Tuesday night and no vote was taken. This is a big push to get the door open for vouchers. If you have not contacted your Senator, this would be a great time. The bill takes \$25 million from the general fund

every year. A special thank you to Jill Schupp, John Rizzo, Gina Walsh, Kiki Curls, Jacob Hummel and Scott Sifton for standing up for public education and pointing out how bad SB612 is for Missouri. If you live in their district, write them a thank you. It is still not over after close to 10 hours of debating the bill on the floor, but these fine legislators have done their homework. [HB2247 Charter School Expansion Bill](#) needs 8 votes to pass and it will be close. The bill removes provisions authorizing a charter school to operate in a school district that has been classified as provisionally accredited. Instead, a charter school may operate in any school district in which at least one school has received an annual performance report score of 60% or less for two of the three most recent reports available when the charter school applies to open a school. You have been getting talking points this week from MCSA.

[Five Signs You're Successful -- Whether You Know It Or Not](#) – Forbes Magazine has a great article by Liz Ryan, “Remember, success is not about the things that other people have given you -- things like fancy job titles, company cars, big salaries, massive expense budgets and corner offices. More degrees don't make you more successful. A better zip code doesn't make you more successful. Real success has to do with the power you build in yourself, power that no one conferred on you and no one can take away from you.”

Leadership Matters – Do you know that over 700 principals and assistant principals in Missouri’s K-12 system are involved in the Missouri Leadership Program? 262 school districts have principals and assistant principals participating in the program and that number is right at the 50% mark of all public-school districts in Missouri. The feedback has been spectacular. The design of the program has received national recognition and the Educational Administrations programs are redesigning their curriculum to fit into the five domains of a Transformational Principal, “Visionary, Instructional, Managerial, Relational and Innovative Leadership.” The next levels of training are presently being developed to assure the program continues to serve principals as they move closer to becoming a transformational leader. Conversations are occurring to include the “Leadership Academy” as a continuation of the MLDS program.

How to use ACT Data - [Do you know how to use your ACT Data to make an impact on student success?](#) The Webinars are 50 minutes in length. There are webinars specifically for Principals (leading your building), Counselors, and teachers.

Spring is in the offing and hopefully the longer days and more prominent minutes of sunshine will usher in the renewal we come to expect in this time of the year. As the Principal of the Thing, your presence and smiles will reinforce the season.