



Tel: 573-445-5071

Fax: 573-445-6416

www.moassp.org

Twitter: #moassp

Serving All Middle Level and High School Administrators

MoASSP Update May 3, 2018

Video Version: <https://youtu.be/Ht6Tw-hHcLQ>

MoASSP Principals,

Bow Tie Day! Do you have a special day each week? What is your signature style? Is that important? One of our Missouri principals has a Bow Tie Day; thank you Robert Sigrist of Savannah HS. He dons his bow tie on Tuesdays and takes a few selfies during the day. He says, "At some point years ago, I started doing #BowTieTuesday and wear one pretty much every Tuesday. I try to get pictures with different kids or at different places in school just to keep it fun. Sometimes other staff members join in or I've had kids do it, too. It's just sort of a quirky fun thing I do." Some schools have school color Fridays, mascot Fridays or dress down Fridays. Is there something you are known for? For me it was neckties. I have a closet full of neckties. One year the teachers wanted to do something special on my birthday and they decided to all wear ties to commemorate the day. My daughter took dozens of my ties to school to share with the teachers, I had so many neckties in my closet, I did not notice they were missing. Is there something unique you would like to share that defines you? It might be fun to share a few quirky things as we head toward the end of the school year.

MoASSP and NASSP Membership is Open – Do you have money left in this year's budget to pay for your 2018-19 memberships? This is a great time to join MoASSP, your MoASSP District, and NASSP. Membership forms can be accessed through our "[Fillable Forms](#)" available on the website and either mailed in, emailed as a PDF, or sent to your central office for purchase order. The [MoASSP Store](#) has easy access for credit card purchases. Our store allows VISA, Master Card, and Discover.

Principal as Instructional Leader – Engaging students at the end of the year is usually a challenge, however, a gift of sorts has been offered that might help keep a few more students involved in the learning process. Following politics is usually the job of the ladies and gentlemen in the school who hold the social studies positions and most people gladly give them the role. However, this year has multiple layers of government actions that make all subjects connected to the news of the day. Great lessons included in the daily operations of our government provide opportunities for speech, English (one word changed an entire statement to the world), debate, science, and even health. At the federal level several former high-ranking employees have been caught lying and are facing possible prison sentences and a few more ranking officials may get caught in their web of deceit and could face serious consequences. The system of democracy and the checks and balances are being challenged at both the state level and the federal level. How much of a role are social media and news outlets playing in the process of maintaining the integrity of our democracy? Who on television and radio are entertainers and who are journalists?

Legislative update - The focus for the legislators this week is on the budget. The House fully funded the Education Formula for 2018-19 and sent their version of the budget to the Senate. The Senate was not in agreement with the House in appropriating money for the formula. The Senate was \$50 million short of the \$98 million additional dollars proposed by the House. The budget will go to committee and there seems to be some wiggle room to fully fund the formula for the fiscal year 2018-19. On the upside that is wonderful for education, but we also know education has been fortunate.

- The Governor's saga is continuing. The transcript of the latest report was released Wednesday afternoon and according to [Lindsay Wise](#), Washington Correspondent for the Kansas City Star. "Missouri Gov. [Eric Greitens](#) allegedly misused a donor list created for his veterans' charity and lied about how his campaign obtained it in a document used to settle an ethics complaint against him, according to a NEW report from a bipartisan House investigative committee." [Greitens faces a felony charge](#) of tampering with computer data related to the claims.
- If the House moves to go to a special session, it must designate specifically why they are going into the special session. If they determine that a special session is needed to impeach the Governor, that is the only business they can do during the session. Of course, they could add more to the designation, but it is highly unlikely. The Governor has made it known he will not resign and will fight to the end. If the House votes by a simple majority to impeach, the matter moves to the Senate where the governor shall be tried by a special commission of "seven eminent jurists" to be elected by the Senate.
- Missouri still does not have a quorum for a State School Board meeting. May 18, is the final day of the session for 2018. Eddie Justice was put before the Senate for confirmation and twenty minutes was filibustered before President Pro Tem Richard withdrew his name. The Governor cannot withdraw the five appointees and the Senate is not likely to bring another appointee to the floor to be confirmed. The lack of action will result in all five being bared for life from being on the State School Board.
 - After May 18, the Governor may appoint five more members to the board and they will have the privilege of being active board members and may vote. At the end of June, the term of Mike Jones from St. Louis, will expire and the Governor may appoint his sixth choice.

Principal Fun – As the days on your calendar begin to be less crowded, you might wish to include a principal networking opportunity in your MoASSP District. Watch your email from your district president about outings for raising funds for scholarships at golf outings, awards presentations, and even a bowling afternoon. After a long year of monitoring goals, handling parents, making presentations, and 5-minute lunches, it will be time to ease into a much shorter week and fewer interruptions. Keep those networking connections alive and share a few GOOD moments with your peers.

[New Principals Conference June 26-27, in Columbia.](#) One of the most highly regarded Principal Leadership Programs in the country was created here in Missouri, is in the third year of the program, and each year it gets better. The Missouri Leadership Development System (MLDS) combines new principal mentoring, ongoing professional development, and networking opportunities that will continue to evolve and strengthen for an entire career. New Principals in year one or two are invited to come spend two days with two of the most sought-after educational experts in the country. [Mike Rutherford](#) is the best facilitator I have been associated with and he has guided our team of leadership experts in the process of developing the MLDS. Our other expert is [Todd Whitaker](#), the author or coauthor of 40 books and one of the most dynamic motivational speakers in the educational world. The role of MoASSP and MAESP in the MLDS is to provide two specific and strategic opportunities for new

principals, the New Principals Conference and Spring Leadership Conferences of MoASSP or MAESP. Principals can save by bundling the two conferences together, the New Principals Conference and either the MoASSP or the MAESP spring conference.

Blunt Promises to Push for Pell Grant Funding - *U.S. Sen. Roy Blunt promised to push for annual increases in Pell grants Wednesday during a meeting with regional higher education officials and students at Moberly Area Community College's satellite location in Columbia. This is important because, Blunt, R-Mo., chairs the appropriations subcommittee that funds federal higher education programs. Most federal student aid programs, including the Pell grant program for lower-income students, are due for votes this year as part of reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.*

Thinking Critically – Some people do not like to think. They would prefer to be told what to do, be told the answers, or just continue to do what they have always done. I get emails from Dr. Linda Elder (lindaelder@criticalthinking.org) and she believes critical thinking and healthy debate are critical for all students and democracy. “It is only when we encourage these uncomfortable discussions, and invite them ourselves, **that we can ever hope to truly achieve and protect freedom of thought and speech.** And it is important to appreciate that ***it is largely through freedom of speech that we achieve freedom of thought.*** For if we are not free to explain and think out our ideas, however controversial or odd they may seem; if we are not able to express our thoughts openly and forthrightly without fear of reprisal; if we are not able to hear others who are likewise free to do the same; then, our ability to develop our own ideas is curtailed or impeded.”

Remember, It Really is the Principal of the Thing.