



Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals

Twitter: @moassp

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MoASSP Update May 12, 2017

Video Version: **Due to a glitch in our system, a video will not be available today.**

MoASSP Principals,

There will be no Update next week, May 17, 2017.

Fidgets, Decorations on Graduation Caps, and Senior Pranks – As if you don't have enough on your plate this time of the year, it is inevitable a distraction will walk into your office. Every year a group will propose, yet another, "good idea" about what should be allowed on the graduation gown or cap: A new cord or a new sash? Why aren't the officers of FFA or the Robotics Team honored with something denoting their organization? Or are some of the old traditions challenged once again: beach balls, noise makers, mismatched tennis shoes or senior pranks? And what nuisance item will appear at the end of the year for you to handle? Where do you draw the line on graduation cap decorations? What subliminal messages are sent on the caps? How about the fidgets? One counselor actually promotes them as a release for students with anxiety issues. That makes it good for a few, but a nuisance for others? WOW! STOP THE WORLD, or at least slow it down.

MoASSP Memberships are Coming In Daily – Many principals and districts are taking advantage of paying the 2017-18 memberships to MoASSP and NASSP with the 2016-17 budget funds. You can pay: online, with a purchase order, with a credit card over the phone, or with a check. [2017 Membership Form](#) is available as a fillable word form. The fillable form may be printed, filled out, and used with a P.O., faxed in with a P.O. number, or emailed as a PDF and followed by a credit card call to our office. You may also use a credit card through the [MoASSP Store](#). The fillable form is a new feature and will allow us to update your information with a tool we are all familiar with, the keyboard. Please, if you use the online store or a credit card to pay, let us know if you do not get confirmation of your membership within one business day.

October 1-3, [Fall Conference Registration](#) – Registration forms for the fall conference are now available. The conference will be held October 1-3, 2017 at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia. There are several options available to pay: online, with a purchase order, with a credit card over the phone, or with a check. There is a registration form available as a fillable word form. The fillable form may be printed, filled out, and used with a P.O., faxed in with a P.O. number, or emailed as a PDF and followed by a credit card call to our office.

[NASSP/NAESP](#) – National Conference in Philadelphia, PA, July 9-11, 2017. There is still time to register and rooms around the conference center are still available.

The Legislative Session is scheduled to close at 6:00 pm this evening. A big thank you to everyone that sent emails, made phone calls, or contacted their legislators!! As of 4:00 pm today, Friday May 12,

2017, we have heard nothing at this point about SB313, the voucher bill or the Charter School Bill, HB634. We will know more about the budget after it is finalized.

ACT – I was notified on Tuesday that the DESE meeting scheduled to occur about ACT Census Testing this week has been postponed. No date has been provided. The last budget item on state assessments dollars was about \$4 million short of the needed funds for all state assessments.

Second in the World!! Two robotics teams from **Platte County High School** [qualified for the VEX Robotics World Championship](#) in Louisville, Ky., from April 19-22, with one squad finishing second in the 2017 world competition. More than 18,000 high school teams from around the world competed in this year's VEX challenge, with the top Platte County team falling in the championship to a program from Shanghai, China. This was just the school's third year of participating in the VEX robotics program and marked the first trip to the world championships for the program.

Personal Finance Standards - Missouri State Board of Education NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS Posted: April 26, 2017 10:00 a.m. Hearing Dates: May 16, 2017, 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. June 13, 2017, 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Are You Flying in the Next Year? You will soon be able to obtain a new driver license that will allow you to use it as your official ID to pass security at any airport in America. The Governor has said he will sign the bill and residents will be able to use Missouri driver's license to board planes or enter federal facilities, such as military bases, without extra documentation or a passport starting in 2018.

Principal Critical Thinking - As the students begin their exit from your building to college, the real world, or take off for the summer, there is now time for you to do some of your best thinking. You should use this time to reflect, think globally about what students need, explore new options, and expand the world of possibilities. Often, you get so caught up in solving problems, handling building issues, and dealing with mischievous students that you don't have time to think deeply about learning. Right now there is a stack of papers on your desk, books and articles you need to read, and a few meetings you need to attend to during the next few weeks. Don't let those management issues consume you and let the most valuable time you have be taken away by management issues. You are the instructional leader and you must take the time to challenge your own vision, look for ways to challenge the beliefs of your teachers, make adjustments to the culture of your building, and build trust with your students. Let those thoughts determine what books and articles to read.

Is your School Highly Successful? Why do we set up schools for teachers to teach students by tracking, in silos, or in short blocks of time? This article [“Why the best ‘Best’ Public Schools Often Struggle With Deeper Learning”](#), By Jal Mehta on May 8, 2017, will challenge you, regardless of school size, but in particular if you are in a very successful school. We are beginning to see a few breaks in the way we help students learn about assimilating knowledge, problem solving, and challenging them to explore and make mistakes.

If you were superintendent, where would you lead your district? [A TED talk from Dr. Michael Hynes](#), Superintendent of the Long Island, NY school district might make you think about your beliefs and challenge how you view students in your charge.

MSBA is a member of the Education Round Table. MoASSP works closely with MSBA and they have great influence with not only your school district, but with the Missouri legislature and at the national

level as well. This is a short survey that can help them provide direction to school boards and maybe to your school. Survey - <http://p0.vresp.com/8VoJMP>

When passionate and experienced people get together, great things happen!

Save the Dates

New Principals Workshop – July 19 & 20, 2017, will be held in Columbia at the Elks on Wednesday and Battle High School on Thursday. If you are moving up to the principal's chair from being an assistant or becoming a principal this conference is for you. One of my former assistants once told me, "I thought I knew what you did, but I really had no idea until I became the leader." See you in July! If you register for the New Principals Workshop and the MoASSP Spring Conference, you will save \$108.00. The spring conference will have sessions just for New Principals.

Save the Dates and Plan ahead for the spring and fall MoASSP conferences – the Fall Conference will be held, October 1-3, 2017 at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia. The spring conference will be at the Lodge of the Four Seasons, March 25-27, 2018.

Beginning Teachers workshops –

- Warrensburg, CMSU – October 12, 2017
- Lindenwood University – October 13, 2017
- Lindenwood University – October 14, 2017

I hope all of your graduations go well. This time of the year is an extremely important time to celebrate learning. Graduation is important, but so are the individual celebrations for the teachers, the students in their classes, and for the entire school culture. I know you will have wonderful celebrations, because you are the Principal of the Thing!