



MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

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Serving All Middle Level and High School Administrators

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MoASSP Update March 17, 2017

Video Version: <https://youtu.be/W9c1JNHtem0>

MoASSP Principal,

[No Kid Hungry Missouri](#) is offering 33 individual schools up to \$3,000 in reimbursement grants to implement or expand any “Breakfast After the Bell” program. Additionally, thanks to their partners at Midwest Dairy and Share or Strength, they are also able to offer up to \$4,000 in cash incentives for the greatest increases in average daily participation for breakfast regardless of reimbursement grant eligibility or awards. The application is open and available [HERE](#). The deadline is April 30th for reimbursement grant applications. Additional information is included in the link.

“Beware of the Ides of March” – I was not a big Shakespeare fan when we studied his works in high school, but this quote has always stuck in my head. I have come to appreciate his mastery of the English language. *Shakespeare’s English is actually very similar to the English that we speak today, and in fact it isn’t Old English at all! What makes it difficult isn’t the grammar or the vocabulary as much as the fact that it is written in verse, and therefore most of the words, phrases sentences and speeches have multiple meanings.* ([from No Sweat Shakespeare](#)) The ides of March once signified the New Year, which meant celebrations and rejoicing. Then William Shakespeare turned the date into a “tragedy” when a medium warned Caesar of his demise. I hope the March 15 date was a good day for you and there was not a cloud of doom over you or your school.

Grooming Leaders – The country and DESE are taking notice of the importance of principals. Many of you are transformational principals, and it is imperative that you continue to serve your profession as a “Distinguished Leader.” Distinguished leaders train, mentor, or inspire other leaders to improve their schools through the improvement of leadership knowledge and skill. Imagine if surgeons did not pass along their techniques or the skill of using arthroscopic or Da-Vinci robotic surgery. Their selfish behavior would cost many lives. In many pockets of our state the support of leaders and sharing of best practices is occurring and MoASSP, DESE, and MoASSP district organizations are helping. Tom Boasberg, Denver’s Superintendent, put it this way, “Your ability to attract and keep good teachers and your ability to develop good teachers, in an unbelievably challenging and complex profession, is so dependent on your principals.” “Most other knowledge-based professions,” he added “pay more attention to grooming leaders than education does.” Help us groom the next generation of principal leaders.

Who is in your network: -The age of the lone leader in the crystal tower is gone. Now leaders network with other leaders, with peers and employees, and use the power of their network for everything from filling a job opening to solving a customer’s problem.

True Leaders are active on social media in such a way that they extend their leadership beyond the organization. They become influencers and thought leaders and their network is always ready to join in their efforts or provide a creative solution to an issue.

MoASSP Spring Conference – Attending to School Culture

[“Now leaders network with other leaders...”](#) (Holger Arians, Co-founder of PLDx.org & CEO) – **NO IT IS NOT TOO LATE** to sign up for the MoAssp Spring Conference.

[Downloadable Registration Form](#) [Online Registration](#) [Book a Room on Line](#) or Call 573-365-3000

Legislative Updates from Jefferson City – The Ides of March at the Capitol often feels like the clouds of doom are building into a storm. Bills are being passed out of committee, pressure is being applied to members, amendments are added, and deals are being cut. In two meetings I attended Monday with our lobbyists and Tuesday at the State Board of Education, several bills and the budget were discussed. **Budget** – Your superintendent has a tough job year-after-year when it is March and he or she must prepare a budget not knowing what money will be available. Governor Greitens’ budget calls for K-12 Education to not lose any money. There seems to be a strong commitment to fully funding the formula for next year (not the old formula that had a \$600 million dollar deficit, but the revised target of increasing the funding by 5%. There are line items that are not part of the formula and they may see major cuts. The Governor has a proposed budget, but it must be approved by the legislators and they have ideas too. **Transportation** is a line item and it may again see a reduction. The loss of funds to transportation will have to come out of district funds. The original plan was for the state to provide 75% of the cost for busing students. That funding is projected to be around 10% to 12%. **Assessments** are another line item. ACT state funded assessments are part of the line item for assessments. At least \$4 million is being projected as a cut to the assessment fund. The dilemma for DESE is, not completing the process of developing the assessments for the “New Standards” that are mandated by Missouri Law and are required by federal law, or give the ACT to all juniors. If the ACT is the choice, we stand to lose approximately \$470 million in federal dollars. Even with the loss of the ACT, there will have to be some other cuts in the assessment package.

Charter School Bill Passed the House Thursday by a slim margin. They needed 82 votes and they received 83. It goes to the Senate for their approval. We will keep you updated on the progress of the bill. If your legislator voted “No” please thank them for their commitment to public education. There is a very strong push from the Charter School Lobbyists in Missouri and there will be money tied to increasing charter schools from the federal level. At the federal level, President Trump has proposed \$200 million for a school choice program. And charter school grants, currently funded at more than \$300 million, could also see an increase. The federal dollars are not very big, but the implication that federal government solidly supports charters is probably worth more than money.

[Federal Dollars](#) (EdWeek)-Proposed contemplation of Educational Budget impacting 2018-19 budget. **Follow**

the link to see the contemplated Education Budget cuts, increases and the potential programs impacted.

I hope you had a great week! It really is the principal of the thing.