



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 10, 2017

Video Version: <https://youtu.be/h3X6JOg9rhw>

MoASSP Principals,

Spring Break – Regardless of the length of your spring break, use it wisely because the critical last quarter is about to begin. Take some time to be with your family, attend the spring conference, or engage in your hobby. The position of principal is demanding and the school year crescendos to an incredible intensity that culminates with the last day of school. For the veterans, the plan is in place and it will be tweaked as the days and challenges are left behind. A principal who has been through this time of the year more than a few times, understands the necessity of organization, the frenzied pace, what to ignore or save for later, and what is an immediate priority. They are also aware how to mentally prepare for the unexpected occurrences. The experienced principal also knows how to get out of the office to take deep breaths, “clear the mechanism”, and then get back in the flow refreshed. Leaders must take the time to recharge because they know they must be at their best, particularly during last quarter. Your teachers and students depend on the leader to be healthy, clear-headed, and as focused on the vision and culture as if the year were just beginning.

Spring Conference – Attending to School Culture

Sometimes, the most valuable thing you get from the network isn't an idea but the inspiration or courage to try something new. (George Couros) Our keynote speakers are: Tiffany Anderson who will open the conference, Margie Vandeven will speak on Monday morning and Les Norman will close the conference.

EdCamp is offered on Sunday from 2:00 to 4:00

There are 20 breakout sessions and a plethora of opportunities to increase your knowledge and enlarge your network.

Conference Downloadable Registration Online Registration

Sunday March 26, 2017

2:00-4:00 PM EdCamp

4:30– 6:30 PM Registration

6:00 – 7:00 PM Jostens Steak Dinner TBA

7:00 – 8:30 PM First General Session – Opening Keynote, Tiffany Anderson (see her dynamic presentation on how, under her leadership, the culture changed in the Jennings School District)

8:30 – 10:30 PM Reception and Hospitality ***Sponsored by Walsworth***

Monday March 27, 2017

7:00 – 8:00 AM Breakfast with Exhibitors

8:00 – 8:50 AM Second General Session Margie Vandeven – Missouri Commissioner of Education

9:55 – 10:50 AM Concurrent Sessions

11:00 – 11:50 AM Concurrent Sessions
12:05 – 1:20 Awards Luncheon
1:25 – 2:15 PM Concurrent Sessions
8:00 PM District to District Networking Session

Tuesday March 28, 2017

7:00 – 7:45 AM Breakfast Granada A&B
7:45 – 9:00 AM Legal Issues by Duane Martin/Missouri EdCounsel
9:00 – 9:45 AM Legislative Updates – Scott Kimble
9:45 – 11:00 AM Final General Session: Keynote - Les Norman

Awards Luncheon will honor our Walsworth Consummate Professionals and our Principals of the Year.



Beth Middendorf
AP of the Year
Year



Renee Trotier
HS Prin. of the Year



Sherri Lewis
MS Prin. of the Year



David Geurin
NASSP Digital Prin. of the
Year

Looking for a tool to help your Civics Teachers - Take [iCivics](#), a set of free online educational games developed by a nonprofit organization founded by former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Last November, as the contentious presidential election came and went, the game was played roughly 3 million times, nearly twice as many as the year prior. It is worth sharing with your social studies teachers. Be patient, it takes a while to load.

National Honor Society in Missouri – Growing new leaders is important for all of us. This year's NHS/NJHS Missouri Convention had a very strong focus on leadership. Over 300 students from all across the state collected to share experiences of leadership and school related stories. Thank you to Linda Whitford for her leadership and putting the conference together. [Camille Yameen \(Youtube\)](#) provided an entertaining and motivational leadership presentation to kick off the convention.

Legislative News – Never before has the principal's role become so entwined with politics. Duane Martin made the comment the other day about the value of Doug and my engagement in the Monday morning meetings with our lobbyists. The superintendent's view is much broader and the principal's day-to-day activities are practical and school oriented. *Doug and Phil are doing a good job of supporting principals and schools.* A big thank you to all of the principals who attend the regional meeting because your input helps drive the conversations we have every week. They also drive the conversations with DESE and will influence MSIP6.

There are about 16 Bills that may impact education still in committee or that have gotten out of committee.

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%.

ACT may be on the chopping block- The allocation of assessment funds provided by legislators for Assessments and given to DESE is about \$8 million and that includes the new standards and assessments to match, the End of Course assessments and the ACT. The proposed budget for the assessment package has been cut to \$4 million. The state law and federal mandates for accountability mandate yearly assessments. Unless more money is appropriated there will have to be cuts somewhere. The cost to pay for all juniors to take the ACT is about \$4 million per year.

A few are innocuous and will have little or no impact on schools. Others are major areas of focus.

- **MSHSAA** – For the time being, MSHSAA bills are not receiving much attention.
- **HB634** – This one is big and we hope can be stopped. Charter schools want to increase their presence in the state without accountability. They wish to move out of Kansas City and St. Louis into the other populated areas. Metropolitan areas of Kansas City, Columbia, St. Louis, St. Joseph, Joplin, and Springfield are a few of the target areas. Once they are open, no one can close them, even if they do not produce positive results. Of course if they get into the more affluent areas their success rate will go up. Local school boards have the first right of approval, but if they say “No” the school can open anyway. We are NOT against innovative schools; we want accountability for all schools.
- **SB32** – This bill is the Voucher Bill, disguised as the “Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program.” *For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2017, a taxpayer may make a qualifying contribution to an educational assistance organization and claim a tax credit, as described in the act. The tax credit is for 100% of the amount of the contribution.* Hopefully, this will not make it through. However, it will continue to be brought up year-after-year.
- **HB118** – Transfers: this bill should be fine if it is not amended to change the intent of the bill.
- **HB970** – Virtual Schools, it is out there, but the edits to the bill have not been productive and it should not get to the Senate.

I hope you had a great week of learning last week. The consummate professional is always learning because his or her school needs to get a little better each day. After all, It Really is the Principal of the Thing.