



MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Twitter: @moassp

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MoASSP Update May 5, 2017

Video Version: <https://youtu.be/wIXA9eoB7bg>

MoASSP Missouri Principals,

Looking Back – It is a great time for you to stop and look back at the year and all of the great things that occurred with your teachers and the students in your charge. Don't wait until the students are gone and the teachers are making their escape to pause and reflect. The best time for you to pause is when the hallways are active. Step out into the hallway between passing periods or stand in a corner of an open area as the students come into school or as they leave. Zoom in on individuals and do a little close reading. See a smile on a face that early in the year was upside down. Watch as a confident student walks down the hall, who just a few months ago was looking for a place to hide. Observe students and teachers engaged in conversations that are examples of the culture in the building. Maybe go out of your way to step into a teacher's room during their plan time to tell them thank you for their commitment to helping all students improve their lives. And before you begin the year-end debriefing of the struggles you faced and the corrections you must make for next year to be better, temporarily halt those thoughts and reflect on the lives you positively impacted over the last nine months as the Principal of the Thing.

Rain, Rain, GO AWAY! - If you were not impacted by the rivers or creeks overflowing, consider yourself lucky. Large suburban schools and small schools across the state were "Rained-out". The I-44 corridor and most communities south have seen as much as 11 inches or more of rain over a two-day period. Bridges and roads have been washed away and stretches of interstates 44 and 55 were closed from Rolla to St. Louis. MoASSP hopes everyone is safe and their basic needs have been taken care of in this time of crisis for many students and families in Missouri who have been seriously impacted by the heavy rains. Mother Nature is a powerful force, not controllable, and can be unpredictable. So, we must be ever vigilant monitoring the forces she commands, and plan for her most violent acts well in advance. **DESE is offering waivers for the most severe cases.** The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education said it will forgive canceled school days on a case-by-case basis. So far, those waivers have been granted to two school districts. But a state memo said those districts had "significant facility damage resulting in a clear inability to conduct school for the remainder of the year."

Will there be ACT Testing Next Year? - According to my latest contact with DESE, it is still up in the air. We will know more next week.

Maplewood Richmond Heights Honored by ACT and NASSP – Congratulations to Principal Kevin Grawer, the teachers and students of MRH High School on receiving two prestigious awards. ACT recognized MRH as an Exemplar School. MRH was selected as the Missouri College and Career Transition Award recipient from among all of the applicants for the 2016-17 ACT College and Career Readiness Campaign. NASSP recognized MRH as a Breakthrough School. Richmond Heights High School

has completed the Breakthrough Schools redesignation process. *As such, MRH has earned recognition as a 2017 National Association Secondary School Principals "Breakthrough School" as a result of the hard work of the students, teachers, and school community.*

MoASSP 2017-18 Membership Applications NOW Available – Do you have money left in the Professional Development portion of your budget? Maybe there is money in another fund? You can take advantage of paying your membership for next year with this year's budget money. 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.

[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.

Teacher Appreciation Week - Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8-12, with Teacher Appreciation Day **Tuesday, May 9**. There are over 6.2 million teachers who deserve recognition for teaching students. I'm sure you and your team in the office are creative enough to generate ideas on your own that will be specific to your teachers. Here are a few thoughts to prime the pump for your creative juices:

- Run congratulatory messages on the electronic signs
- Create a special lunch complete with a special table service, catered meal, a string quartet or chamber choir
- Have the students write notes or poems to a teacher, leave them at the office and have them delivered
- Take orders the day before teacher appreciation day and bring in their favorite pastry and morning drink

Are you or do you know a new principal at any level? The New Principal Workshop is July 19 & 20th, 2017.

New Principals Systemic Training – MoASSP, other professional education organizations and DESE have spent nearly three years developing the Missouri Leadership Development System. With input from principals, college professors of educational administration, and highly skilled and knowledgeable presenters, a curriculum has been prepared with activities and timelines that will help guide new building leaders. Trained mentors and leadership development specialists will work in concert with new principals and help them navigate the sometimes turbulent waters facing building leaders. The process will begin with the New Principals Workshop July 19 & 20, 2017 in Columbia. There is no better way to kick off a conference than to have one of the nation's leading presenters inform and inspire an entire group. [Todd Whitaker](#) will spend several hours with the New Principals on the opening day of the workshop July 19. Registration is available on the [MoASSP website](#).

[Must Read article by John Hattie](#) – What do you think about as the lead learner in your school? Are you still in the industrial model for all students? Hattie says, "I worry about our current factory model because for about 60-70% of the students, it's working very well, but for 30-40% it's not. And it's

not always 30-40% of the struggling kids — some of our brightest kids are failing in the industrial model.” He goes on to say, “How do we merge what we’ve learned so well from that model to bring what’s needed now? Take for example math and science. The job opportunities are dropping off dramatically for math and science graduates without social skills.”

ACT Make-up date for the Make-up date - Flooding has caused many schools to be out during the ACT make-up date that was scheduled for May 3, 2017. Many schools have contacted DESE already for another date. The Make-up date for the Make-up date is now set for May 16, 2017.

ACT online – The online version of the ACT is becoming more popular and seems to be working quite well for the schools that have tried it in the last couple of years. Many larger schools are using the delivery method and are very happy with the platform provided by ACT. If you make the decision to choose to go with the online version, make sure your tech people run trials, prior to the assessment being given, to be sure your one-to-one computers or building wide system is prepared for the delivery of the assessment.

Value of the ACT - You’ve asked. And ACT listened. ACT has compiled [resources](#) you can use to communicate the value of taking the ACT to your students, parents, and fellow educators.

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

New Principals Workshop – July 19 & 20, 2017, will be held in Columbia at the Elks on Wednesday and Battle High School on Thursday.

Save the Dates and Plan ahead for the spring and fall MoASSP conferences – the Fall Conference will be held September 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

As the testing winds down, the activities slowly get checked off, and the celebration cookies and treats become less frequent, remind yourself, being the Principal of the Thing is really a great job!