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Serving All Middle Level and High School Administrators

MoASSP Update July 24, 2017

Video Version – <https://youtu.be/CRJEf3279yw>

Missouri Principals,

MoASSP Updates are sent out to member principals several times per month. The principal's time is valuable and the *Updates* can be a useful tool keeping building leaders informed about Missouri and national educational issues. Over 70% of the secondary public school principals enjoy the benefits of MoASSP and the percentage of private schools is increasing as well. MoASSP conferences highlight some of the best educational practices occurring in the state. MoASSP knows great conferences have keynote speakers that inspire and challenge the audience. We go to great lengths to bring in speakers like this year's conference opener Baruti Kafele and past speakers Todd Whitaker, Dwight Carter, and Jimmy Casas. Join MoASSP as we increase the volume of the "voice of the principal" and collaborate to move more principals into the transitional leadership level.

MoASSP/District/NASSP Memberships – Join or renew your membership with MoASSP, your district, and NASSP on one form. The [Easy to fill out form](#) is available on our website.

Summer Break? For principals, summers are becoming almost as busy as the school year. A quick look on twitter indicates that last week some Missouri districts held workshops or district retreats for administrators. It seems like there is much more information that needs to be shared that principals need to know about or manage, and central office needs to keep principals apprised of all of the changes that will impact the district this year. Principals need to know about new state and federal laws, DESE changes, and district policies. And if there is the time, the building principal can review the district CSIP plan and maybe also find time to lead their administrative teams on Building Level Improvement Plans. As the year progresses, I hope you are able to get away and refresh yourself on leadership and the value of principal collaboration.

National Principals Conference – What a great event! Missouri had a nice contingent of around 80 members from MoASSP and MAESP at the conference. Mike Schmoker and Kevin Carroll were outstanding speakers for the attendees and the special guest of the Salute to Leaders Program saw a wonderful speaker in Simon T. Bailey. Several of the Missouri principals were honored at the evening Salute to Leaders event. MoASSP's Assistant Principal of the Year, Beth Middendorf was one of 50 assistant principals honored by NASSP with special workshops and activities and recognized at the Salute to Leaders Program on Monday night. David Geurin of Bolivar was also celebrated at the program as one of three National Digital Principals of the Year. Kevin Lowery took his place as a new NASSP Board Member representing Region 6 (Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado and Arizona). Kevin Graver and Maplewood-Richmond Heights were recognized as a continuing Breakthrough School. Beth Houf, from Fulton, author of "Lead Like a Pirate" had a breakout session in a

large room that was beyond capacity and the audience spilled into the hallways. (had the fire marshal been around the Pirate Ladies would have had to walk the plank or been thrown overboard.) Everyone who attended was very excited about what they learned and would love to return next year. I hope next summer we can get 100 secondary principals to attend in Chicago! Chicago is close enough for many of you to drive. Save the Dates: July 11-13, 2018.

Leadership is about Influence – MoASSP is regaining its influence at both the state and national levels. At the national level, MoASSP has a visible presence and several of our members and their schools have been rewarded with honors for their excellence. At the state level, the legislators are beginning to understand the challenges principals and schools face with diversity, poverty, and the mandates from both the state and the federal level. The State Board of Education understands the value of leadership and they often speak of the “power of principal leadership” in their meetings. We encourage all of our members to be visible, active, and servant leaders beyond the district boundaries. Your membership is important, but your active participation and your collaborative presence are highly valued.

“Creating Innovative Learning Opportunities”

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.

[MoASSP/MCCTA Fall Conference](#), “Creating Innovative Learning Opportunities” - Register now for the 2017 Fall Conference and hear Baruti Kafele (Ka Fay Lay). He is one of the most sought-after education speakers in America. His message of *inspiring* school and classroom excellence is vastly impacting America’s schools! The closing keynotes will include both Digital Principal of the Year, David Geurin, and Mike Smith, a Jostens national speaker.

Creative Learning in your school? – Do you have creative learning going on in your school? We need you to showcase your school’s enterprising learning opportunities. Make Doug Mirts aware of the innovative approach in your school and we might work you in as a breakout at this fall’s conference

New Principals (Leadership Development System) Conference – “Today was awesome!” There were only positive quotes on the evaluation sheets about the principal panel and this one sums up all of them, “The panel was a great eye opener. I am glad they were honest.” On the panel were several notable Missouri principals who have been state and national level presenters, state and national board members, and the author of [Lead Like a Pirate](#). Kicking off the conference was Todd Whitaker, of national and international prominence, and of course, he was “Amazing”. 100 of the estimated 300 new principals were able to attend this year’s event and walked away more confident about their role and responsibilities as a first-year administrator. For the next two years, they will be teamed with a cohort group, a *Regional Leadership Development Specialist*, and a trained mentor that will be focused exclusively on helping the new administrators navigate the challenges of a first-year principal and help provide timely professional development. The attendees were from the St. Louis suburbs, Kansas City suburbs, and all sizes of schools in between. There are a few programs and districts that offer trainings in our state, but none that we know of providing support and training exclusively for principals.

Are you a new principal that has not been contacted by your Leadership Development Specialist? You may: call the office (573)-445-5071, email Doug dmirts@moassp.org or me plewis@moassp.org, or contact the Regional Professional Development Center in your area.

“Title II A” Federal Money – The budget is on its way to the appropriations committee in the Senate and Roy Blunt is the chair of the committee that is focused on education (Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies). If you send an email to Senator Blunt, it might help reinstate the money for teacher and principal training in Missouri. Missouri principals’ responses were in the top five states contacting their legislators a few months ago, please contact Senator Blunt and encourage him to support Missouri educator professional development. You may contact [Senator Blunt through his webpage](#) or take advantage of the 30-second version and contact your congressman/congresswoman through the [NASSP advocacy page](#).

State Funded ACT Testing has been eliminated from the Missouri State Budget - The State of Missouri will no longer be paying for students to take the ACT beginning in 2018. Missouri has paid for all 11th grade students to take the ACT since 2015. “This budget year we have had a \$4 million cut in the assessment budget, and the ACT is not required by federal laws, so that’s the area we had to cut,” said Sarah Potter, communications coordinator for the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education. By offering the ACT for free there has been an increase in the number of students taking the test including an increase of 18,806 students in 2016.

In-school, weekday ACT testing is available for every school building in Missouri. Schools may arrange for this service independent of the ACT funding decision from the legislators in Missouri. ACT offers a service called State and District Testing (SADT). This service allows you to arrange weekday testing and choose from one of two dates in the spring of 2018. The process is virtually identical to the ACT State Test that Missouri has funded the last three years and virtually the same as a Saturday ACT National Test administration. In addition, Missouri schools can also provide ACT Work Keys Assessments in their school buildings. There are two links below. Please review and contact your Missouri ACT representative if you need more information or if you have any questions. The cost for the ACT in-school assessment is \$45.00 for the ACT (Paper & Pencil) and \$61.50 for the ACT+ Writing (Paper & Pencil).

[ACT State and District Testing](#)
[WorkKeys Testing](#)

[Article on the Benefits of ACT](#) to talk with your superintendent or the Board of Education to secure funding for financing the assessment at your school.

DID YOU KNOW FIELD TESTS ONLY IN 2017-18 FOR SCIENCE? [Science Assessment 2017-18](#) – Only “Field Tests” of Grade Level (5 and 8) Science, Biology, and Physical Science will be administered in 2017-18. Tests during the fall 2017 and spring 2018 assessment windows will be Field Tests. These field tests will align with the standards adopted by the State Board in April 2016. Data from the assessment vendor will be used to ensure that the 95 percent participation rate required for federal accountability purposes is met. This assessment data will not be included in the calculation of the 2018 APR.

Perkins Reauthorization Bill Passes Through the House Unanimously The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act has not been reauthorized since 2006. However, on June 22, the House took a significant step forward by unanimously passing the [Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act](#). This legislation, introduced by Representatives Glenn “GT” Thompson (R-PA) and Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL), would reauthorize the Perkins Act and update the bill to make it more

applicable in the modern world. The bill will now head to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP). You can find more information [about the bill here](#).

[NASSP Federal Grassroots](#) - As a school leader, you advocate on behalf of your students and staff every day with the decisions you make. We need you to share your expertise and on-the-ground experiences with policymakers so they are better informed when making decisions on education policy. If advocacy is especially important to you, one way for you get more involved is to join the NASSP Federal Grassroots Network! NASSP's Federal Grassroots Network brings together individuals who want to build close relationships with their members of Congress to inform them about how policies they create in Washington impact education in their districts and states.

For a school leader the end of the school year is fast paced and the good principal is always one step ahead of a potentially chaotic situation. In the late summer the good principal is constantly adjusting his or her thinking and planning trying to arrange a schedule that will get everyone's needs met. Central office has a list of MUST DO'S. The teachers have needs that must be met before the students arrive. And above all else reviewing the culture cornerstones must be revisited and reinforced. The advantage of the Great Ones have is they make it look so easy by hiding their anxiety very well. To all of you Great Ones and those working toward Greatness enjoy the next few weeks. Itt Really is the Principal of the Thing that gets things off to a great start!