



2025 MNSAA
CONFERENCE

PLAN IT | POST IT | PUT IT TO WORK

IDEAS THAT STICK





ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Stephen's Catholic School welcomes MNSAA to our amazing place! Our 37+ staff members are focused on making sure every learner has a wonderful experience while growing in faith and knowledge. Caring teachers, many dedicated specialists, and small class sizes ensure all 375+ learners receive individual attention. We delight in recognizing each child's unique gifts and talents. Our staff takes great pride in helping each child shine! To learn more, visit ststephensschool.org.

ENJOY YOUR DAY OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN OUR BEAUTIFUL SCHOOL.
WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

THANK YOU MAJOR CONFERENCE SPONSORS

***ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL** - HOST ***ESCALE ADVISORS** - PREMIER ***LANGER CONSTRUCTION** - PREMIER ***ANCHOR POINT** - HOSPITALITY ***PROFESSIONAL LEARNING BOARD** - HOSPITALITY ***TWO TREES** - HOSPITALITY ***GERTEN'S** - DECOR

**Thank you again to all of our Partner Sponsors*

2025 MNSAA CONFERENCE WELCOME!

WELCOME TO MNSAA'S 2025 CONFERENCE

MISSION Another inspiring school year is underway, and we are excited to welcome you to MNSAA's 2025 Conference! This year's theme, **Plan It, Post It, Put it to Work - Ideas That Stick**, centers on the essential elements that drive excellence in our schools. We hope this conference ignites fresh ideas, energizes your leadership, and enriches the work you do every day within your school communities.

We are honored to introduce our keynote speaker, Matt Eicheldinger, a former middle school teacher turned New York Times bestselling author whose stories capture the humor, heart, and lessons in everyday moments. During his years in the classroom, Matt began writing down the funny, profound, and unexpected experiences that shaped his students and himself, while discovering the extraordinary within the ordinary along the way. Through engaging storytelling and reflective insights, Matt reminds us of an educator's power to shape lives through connection, creativity, and authenticity. His keynote will inspire you to see your stories and your students' as the foundation for lasting impact.

MNSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS GRATEFUL

COMMUNITY Bringing this day to life requires tremendous effort and dedication. We thank **St. Stephen's Catholic School**, especially Principal Gerald Rehder, for welcoming us into their community and hosting this enriching day of networking, learning, and growth. Today is a testament to the strength and value of our school communities as we come together to share in a spirit of collaboration and unity.

CULTURE MNSAA EXISTS TO SUPPORT YOUR FINE WORK

MNSAA was founded in 1976 to accredit, support, and value Minnesota's nonpublic schools in their unique guiding philosophies and missions. Our agency accredits more schools than any other in our state and is recognized by the State of Minnesota. Large or small, rural or urban, faith-based or independent - MNSAA schools are diverse in the students and families they serve. Our requirements unify schools as accreditation assures the public and stakeholders that schools are meeting high standards of educational excellence and focused on continuous improvement.

2025 MNSAA
CONFERENCE RESOURCES



MNSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SERVING OUR ASSOCIATION OF MEMBER SCHOOLS



MS. VICKI MARVIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MNSAA Member, Northfield

“I am honored to be starting my fourth year as Executive Director for MNSAA. As a board member since 2011, my understanding of and belief in the framework that MNSAA provides has grown exponentially through the years. It is deeply fulfilling to work with nonpublic schools across the state of Minnesota, helping them meet and exceed their goals as they strive to discover their full potential.

CONTACT INFORMATION: vicki.marvin@mnsaa.org | 507.222.9205

Vicki Marvin is in her fourth year as Executive Director for MNSAA, following 21 years as a Catholic school principal. She holds a BA in Elementary Education from the College of St. Benedict and a Master's degree from St. Mary's University in Winona. During her first principalship, Vicki earned her Education Specialist degree and Administrative licensure from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Her teaching experience spans kindergarten through 8th grade, and she has coached athletes at both the middle school and high school levels. Vicki joined the MNSAA board in 2011, where she served as board secretary and MNSAA Team Chair before assuming her current leadership role.

.....



DR. MARY ADRIAN

MNSAA Leader, St. Paul

“Non-public schools are essential to the health and stability of our communities. I appreciate that MNSAA is a strong catalyst for the continued growth and excellence of our schools. It is an honor to serve on the MNSAA Board of Directors, and I look forward to continuing in that capacity.

CONTACT INFORMATION: maryadrian@me.com | 952.758.5985

After many years working in the public sector in the area of Special Education, Mary became principal of Holy Spirit in St. Paul where she was a principal for 21 years. A standing member of the MNSAA Board of Directors, Mary is committed to maintaining and improving the quality of Preschool - Grade 12 education through the MNSAA process. She does this in part by leading onsite team visits, reading annual progress reports, onboarding new principals in the MNSAA process, and actively engaging in the board.

2025 MNSAA
CONFERENCE RESOURCES



MNSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SERVING OUR ASSOCIATION OF MEMBER SCHOOLS



SR. JULIE BRANDT

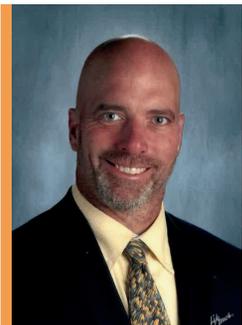
New Ulm Area Catholic Schools, New Ulm

“The MNSAA organization provides both support and accountability for schools in meeting standards of excellence. The accreditation process, including the school's self-study report, which is validated by the visiting team, supports schools in developing a strategic plan focused on growth and improvement. Such a continuous improvement cycle provides assurance that schools are striving toward excellence.

CONTACT INFORMATION: sjulie.brandt@nuacs.com | 507.233.0701

Sr. Julie Brandt, SSND serves as the president of the New Ulm Area Catholic Schools. A lifelong educator, she earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Mankato State University. She holds both a master's degree from Boston College and a doctorate from St. Louis University in Catholic Educational Leadership. With experience in both elementary and high school, she has served as a teacher, principal, president and associate superintendent over her career in Catholic education. She has worked in schools in Minnesota, North Dakota and Missouri. She previously served on the Missouri Nonpublic Schools Accrediting Association.

.....



MR. MATT CLEARY

Torah Academy, St. Louis Park

“MNSAA has been instrumental in helping both our school and teachers grow through its comprehensive accreditation process. The insights gained from accreditation have significantly enhanced our school's performance. The high-caliber presenters at the Annual Conference provide valuable knowledge and inspiration. I also greatly enjoy supporting MNSAA by participating in onsite accreditation visits, which allow me to collaborate with and learn from other schools. It is an honor to serve on a board that contributes so meaningfully to the success of nonpublic schools.”

CONTACT INFORMATION: mcleary@torahacademymn.org | 952.285.8606

Matt Cleary currently serves as the General Studies Principal at Torah Academy. He has been a member of the MNSAA board since 2020. Prior to his current role, Matt was the Dean of Summer School and a social studies teacher and football coach at Forest Lake High School. He began his teaching career in Shell Lake, WI, where he taught and coached for five years. Matt holds an M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction, a Graduate Certificate as a Reading Teacher, and an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree from St. Cloud State University. In his free time, Matt enjoys time with his wife, Tina; stays connected with their three children (two have launched, one still at home); dotes on their grandchild; and loves reading, playing music, and getting outdoors.

MNSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SERVING OUR ASSOCIATION OF MEMBER SCHOOLS



MS. NIKKI GIEL

Shakopee Area Catholic School, Shakopee

“MNSAA offers nonpublic schools a meaningful and reflective process that truly strengthens our commitment to excellence. As a principal, I value how MNSAA not only holds us to high standards but also walks alongside us with support, wisdom, and encouragement.

CONTACT INFORMATION: ngiel@sacsschools.org | 952.445.3387 ext. 164

Nikki Giel has served in Catholic education for 20 years. Her teaching experience has primarily been in kindergarten, though she has also taught preschool, served as a school librarian, and taught middle school. Nikki currently serves as the principal of Shakopee Area Catholic School (SACS). She holds a B.A. in Elementary Education from the University of St. Thomas, along with a Master’s in Curriculum and Instruction, a Certificate in Differentiation, and an Education Specialist degree, all from the University of St. Thomas as well. Nikki is a licensed K–12 principal in the state of Minnesota. A passionate advocate for Catholic education, Nikki believes deeply in the value of faith-based learning and works to support school choice, ensuring that all families have the opportunity to choose the educational environment that best meets their child’s needs.

.....



DR. BONITA JUNGELS

Notre Dame Academy, Minnetonka

“Non-public schools are essential to the health and stability of our communities. I appreciate that MNSAA is a strong catalyst for the continued growth and excellence of our schools. It is an honor to serve on the MNSAA Board of Directors, and I look forward to continuing in that capacity.

CONTACT INFORMATION: bjungels@nda-mn.org | 952.358.3500

Bonnie is in her 19th year as an administrator in Catholic schools and is currently serving at Notre Dame Academy in Minnetonka. She has also been a principal in Jordan and Winsted serving students in preschool through 12th grade. She has an EDD in Leadership, Policy and Administration and MA in Curriculum and Instruction - both from the University of St. Thomas and a BA in English and Secondary Education from the College of St. Benedict. She taught middle school and high school English and religion. Ensuring students receive the social emotional skills they need to thrive and reach their full potential has become her passion and mainstay.

MNSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SERVING OUR ASSOCIATION OF MEMBER SCHOOLS



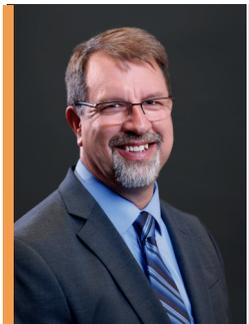
MS. MARTHA LAURENT, BOARD PRESIDENT *Holy Name of Jesus School, Wayzata*

“I am honored and blessed to serve MNSAA member schools and to support progress towards excellence in our schools.”

CONTACT INFORMATION: mllaurent@hnoj.org | 763.473.3675

Dedicated to Catholic education and school choice for families, Martha Laurent is the principal of Holy Name of Jesus School in Wayzata. She received her Master's Degree from the University of St. Thomas in Educational Leadership; her Educational Specialist degree is also from UST. Martha is a licensed K-12 administrator in the state of Minnesota. Martha serves as MNSAA's President, leads onsite accreditation visits, serves on the Annual Progress Report review committee, is the Chair of our Governance Committee, and speaks regularly at our conference. Martha has supported dozens of schools in meeting MNSAA standards.

.....



MR. WADE MATHERS *Diocese of Duluth, Duluth*

“I am thrilled to join MNSAA as a new board member! I look forward to engaging with its mission of promoting excellence in private school education as we continually strive for excellence together.”

CONTACT INFORMATION: wade.mathersduluthcatholic.org | 218.724.9111

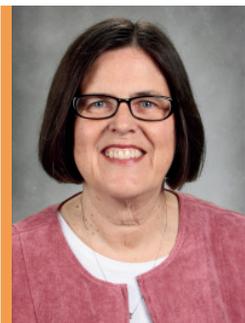
Wade is currently in his fourth year as the Director of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Duluth. Prior to this, he spent 29 years in public education, teaching K-12 art in western South Dakota and middle school art in Redwood Falls, MN. During the last 19 years of his public education career, he served as a middle school principal in Redwood Falls and Little Falls, MN. Wade earned his Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Southwest Minnesota State University and holds Minnesota K-12 Principal and District Superintendent licensure. He recently joined the MNSAA board as an associate member.

2025 MNSAA
CONFERENCE RESOURCES



MNSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SERVING OUR ASSOCIATION OF MEMBER SCHOOLS



MS. MAGGIE QUAST, SECRETARY

MNSAA Board Member, Minneapolis

“Every school leader is dedicated to the unending pursuit of institutional excellence. The MNSAA accreditation framework is central to this mission, providing the critical structure necessary to both establish and realize objectives that elevate school performance. MNSAA’s support for our member schools is extraordinary and unmatched, providing comprehensive guidance through the accreditation process while consistently offering superior professional development for educators and administrators alike.

CONTACT INFORMATION: maggiequast56@gmail.com | 952.484.3959

Maggie Quast is a retired teacher and principal from the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis. She has served on the MNSAA Board of Directors for the last 4 years. She received her undergraduate degree from Drake University and Master's Degree from the University of St. Thomas.

During her tenure as a school leader, she profoundly valued the consistent guidance and support provided by MNSAA throughout each accreditation cycle. Now, as a member of the Board of Directors for the past four years, she is honored to continue contributing to that vital support system for her fellow school leaders.

ELECTED FOR SERVICE



MS. KELLY ROCHE

St. Joseph School Community, Rosemount

“MNSAA provides nonpublic schools with the support and tools needed for achieving continuous school improvement and excellence.

Kelly is in her 10th year as an administrator in a Catholic school. In fact, Kelly has been a part of the St. Joseph School community in Rosemount for her entire life--as an alumni, teacher, and principal. She earned a BA in Elementary Education from the College of St. Benedict, an MA in Education: Catholic School Leadership from St. Mary’s University, and her Education Specialist degree from the University of St. Thomas. Kelly is passionate about building positive, joy-filled school culture through cultivating meaningful relationships and modeling a growth mindset.

CANDIDATES

RECOMMENDED FOR CONTINUED SERVICE 2025-28



MR. JOEL KOSKI

Christian Heritage Academy, Lakeville

“The accreditation process through MNSAA has provided both my school community and myself with confidence and stability in our curriculum, programming, and future. I appreciate that every non-public school I observe is permitted to maintain its uniqueness in alignment with its mission while adhering to the framework established by the MNSAA standards.

CONTACT INFORMATION: jkoski@chacademy.com | 952.953.4155

Joel Koski has served as the principal of Christian Heritage Academy in Lakeville since 2019. Prior to moving into an administrative position, he taught at CHA in 4th grade. Joel earned his bachelor's degree in K-8 Education in Social Studies from Bethel University in St. Paul. He earned his Master's Degree from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in Educational Leadership. Joel greatly appreciates the MNSAA standards, serving on teams to visit other non-public schools, and the entire accreditation process.



MR. PETE MARKGRAF

St. Paul's Lutheran School, New Ulm

“MNSAA has provided the personal care and support we need to continually strengthen our educational system. From their rigorous standards to the thorough team visit, I've valued the opportunity to connect directly with an MNSAA representative throughout the process. While other accreditation options exist, we continue with MNSAA because we're confident in the quality and integrity of their accreditation.

CONTACT INFORMATION: principal@splnewulm.org | 507.276.3398 ex. 205

Pete Markgraf is the principal of St. Paul's Lutheran School in New Ulm, MN, serving a preschool through eighth-grade program for the past seven years. He previously held principal roles in Clearwater, FL, and Sioux Falls, SD. Pete also has 15 years of teaching experience in grades 3-8. He served as a coach in various locations and years as an athletic and technology director. He currently serves as chairman of the Southwest Minnesota Principals' Conference of the WELS and earned his Master of Science in Educational Administration from Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN.



Board of Directors Considerations

Directors are administrative leaders who represent the various sizes, types, geography, and religious/cultural diversity of our member schools. Each year, schools have the opportunity to nominate leaders at any time. If you or your school community wants make such a nomination, candidates will be considered for the next election.

In addition to elected Directors, MNSAA Bylaws allow for up to three Associate Directors to be appointed annually by the seated board. Appointed directors come from agencies that are in agreement with the objectives and function of MNSAA and who possess expertise relating to the accreditation of nonpublic schools.

2025 CONFERENCE AGENDA

IDEAS THAT STICK

TRACK ONE: ACCREDITATION SUCCESS	TRACK TWO: EARLY CHILDHOOD EXCELLENCE	TRACK THREE: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT SERIES
<p>7:45-8:15 Arrival, Continental Breakfast, and Expo</p>	<p>7:45-8:15 Arrival, Continental Breakfast, and Expo</p>	<p>7:15-7:30 Arrival, Continental Breakfast, and Expo</p>
<p>8:15-8:30 Welcome - Rooms 6 & 7</p>	<p>8:15-8:30 Welcome - Room 3</p>	<p>7:30-9:40 Workshop with Ted Neitzke</p>
<p>8:30-10:00 Years 6 & 7, Strategic Planning</p>	<p>8:30-10:00 Workshop with Oona Myhre</p>	<p>9:40-10:00 Break and Expo</p>
<p>10:20-10:40 Break and Expo</p>	<p>10:00-10:20 Break and Expo</p>	<p>10:00-11:30 Workshop with Ted Neitzke</p>
<p>10:45-11:30 Matt Eicheldinger breakout session</p>	<p>10:20-11:30 Workshop with Oona Myhre</p>	
<p>11:30-12:30 Lunch and expo</p>	<p>11:30-12:45 Lunch and expo</p>	<p>11:30-12:30 lunch and expo</p>
<p>12:30-1:30 Annual Progress Reports, Stakeholder Reports</p>	<p>12:45-1:30 Matt Eicheldinger breakout session</p>	<p>12:30-1:30 Working with Ted Neitzke</p>
<p>1:30-1:45 Prizes - Rooms 5 & 10</p>	<p>1:30-1:45 Prizes - Rooms 5 & 10</p>	<p>1:30-1:45 Prizes - Rooms 5 & 10</p>
<p>1:45-2:45 Keynote Speaker - Rooms 5 & 10</p>	<p>1:45-2:45 Keynote Speaker - Rooms 5 & 10</p>	<p>1:45-2:45 Keynote Speaker - Rooms 5 & 10</p>

OUR ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS IS MOST SINCERELY GRATEFUL TO OUR GRACIOUS HOSTS!

The support received from the entire St. Stephen's Catholic School community has been richly valued. Our conference would not have been possible without the work of the St. Stephen's team.

2025 MNSAA CONFERENCE RESOURCES



2025 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER MATT EICHELDINGER



THE TEACHER WHO WROTE IT ALL DOWN

In his years as a teacher, Matt Eicheldinger developed a habit that would change his life: he started writing things down. From the funny, offbeat remarks of his students to the small yet powerful moments that made him pause, he filled journals with the everyday magic unfolding in his classroom. Over time, he realized these weren't just memories—they were life lessons waiting to be uncovered.

Each entry helped him see the beauty in ordinary moments, whether it was the way a student solved a problem in an unexpected way or how a simple act of kindness rippled through the classroom. These reflections became the seeds for his books, stories that celebrate resilience, humor, and imagination.

THE STORY JAR

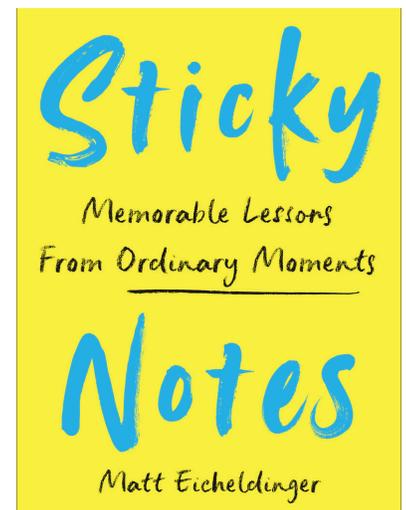
In his classroom, storytelling was more than a pastime—it was an event. At the center of it all was a jar filled with slips of paper, each bearing the title of a story from his childhood.

Students eagerly awaited the moments when he would pull a slip from the jar and bring the story to life. With every tale, they laughed, listened, and begged to hear just one more.

Those moments of connection became the heart of Matt's teaching as he realized the stories weren't just entertaining; they were tools for learning and growth. They helped him see the power of storytelling to spark imagination, inspire creativity, and teach life lessons.

It was in those storytelling sessions, surrounded by his students, that many of Matt's future books found their roots, including the Matt Sprouts series. Each story from the jar became a building block, not just for teaching but for writing books that celebrate the magic of everyday moments.

Now, as a New York Times bestselling author, Matt channels both the wisdom of his teaching years and the nostalgia of his youth into books that inspire, entertain, and remind us all that the best stories come from life's most authentic moments.



CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

THANK YOU!



ANCHOR POINT SOLUTIONS
anchorpointsolutions.com
(651) 200-8443
Todd Russ
truss@grace-in-action.com



BUSINESS ESSENTIALS
businessessentials.com
(651) 497-6474
Larry Johnson
ljohnson@orderbe.com



CANOPY IT SOLUTIONS
canopyit.com
(612) 747-6213
Josh Goldberg
jgoldberg@canopyit.com



CSCOE
cscoe-mn.org
(612) 425-1105
Pamela Richards
pamrichards@cscoe-mn.org



DEMCO
demco.com
(608) 242-4526
Don Hazlett
donh@demco.com



DONALD'S UNIFORMS
donaldsuniform.com
(612) 201-8245
Barb Williamson
bwilliamson@donaldsuniform.com



ESCALE ADVISORS
Strategic Consulting - Advancement Leadership

ESCALE ADVISORS LLC
escaleadvisors.com
(612) 518-2620
Casey Breen
cbreen@escaleadvisors.com



FIELD TRIP ADVENTURES
fieldtripadventures.com
(763) 402-0849
Jo Ann Huebsch
joann@mnfieldtriplibrary.com



GERTENS FUNDRAISING
gertens.com/fundraising
(651) 239-1321
Stacie Angell
sangell@gertens.com



JMC
jmcinc.com
(800) 524-8182
Shelby Valkos
shelby@jmcinc.com



KEMMETMUELLER PHOTOGRAPHY
k-photography.com
(605) 490-8589
Brenda Nepsund
bnepsund@k-photography.com



LANGER CONSTRUCTION
langerconstruction.com
(651) 256-3312
Josh Schultz
josh@langerconstruction.com

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

THANK YOU!



MINNDEPENDENT
minndependent.org
(651) 308-6454
Lisa Vosbeek
lvosbeek@minndependent.org



NET MINISTRIES
netusa.org
(605) 351-4285
Jenelle Suchy
scheduling@netusa.org



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING BOARD
professionallearningboard.com
(844) 982-1780
Ellen Paxton
ellen@plbinc.com

Renaissance



RENAISSANCE
renaissance.com
(858) 395-3821
Jessica Rowley
jessica.rowley@renaissance.com

SOLID ROCK CONSTRUCTION
srcmn.com/
(763) 226-6648
Beth Louden
Beth@srcmn.com



STRAWBRIDGE STUDIOS
strawbridge.net
(763) 219-2434
Kara McGinnis
kara.mcginnis@strawbridge.net



THE COMMONS
the-commons.app
(320) 420-5169
Julia Gustafson
julia@the-commons.app



TIERNEY CONSULTING
ttierneyconsulting.org
(651) 324-0829
Ben Tierney
ben@tierneyconsulting.org



TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES
twotrees.com
(701) 712-5518
Tina Marsh
tina.marsh@twotrees.com

2025 MNSAA
CONFERENCE RESOURCES



CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

THANK YOU!



YOUTH ENRICHMENT LEAGUE

yelkids.com
(952) 314-1198
Mike Lutz
mike@yelkids.com



ZERR BERG ARCHITECTS

zbarch.com
(701) 478-4739
Blake Carlson
blake.carlson@zbarch.com



FAITH-BASED DESIGN BUILDER

services include:
Master Planning, Feasibility Study, Design,
Scope/Budget Alignment, & Construction



Since 1946
(651) 457-5993
josh@langerconstruction.com

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

THANK YOU!

Let's get your team growing with confidence, not guesswork!



At Escale, we understand the challenges high-growth leaders face. Balancing daily operations while trying to scale your organization can leave you feeling stuck, overwhelmed, and uncertain about the next steps.

That's why we use a proven system that transforms how organizations grow—so you can achieve sustainable success without sacrificing your time or well-being.

Unlock predictable growth...
get your life back!



www.escleadvisors.com
612-518-2620
cbreen@escleadvisors.com



Casey Breen, Lead Coach

2025 MNSAA
CONFERENCE RESOURCES



CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

THANK YOU!



Twotrees[®]
Technologies

A Different Kind of IT Company

Education
Enterprise
Technology



Scan for more information

Integration
Support
Warranties



Online BOSA CEU Courses by PLB



Renew your MN administrator and teaching licenses with BOSA CEU courses for school administrators in Minnesota!



Administrative Skills

★★★★★

- IMPLEMENTING SCIENCE OF READING FOR ADMINISTRATORS (20 Hrs or 1 Grad Credit)
- HYBRID SCHOOL PLANNING FOR ADMINISTRATORS (40 Hours or 2 Grad Credits)
- EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP ESSENTIALS (20 Hours or 1 Grad Credit)



Renew your MN teacher license with online courses!
Trusted by schools and teachers.

★★★★★

MN Licensure Requirements

- Accommodations
- American Indian History
- Cultural Competency
- English Language Learners
- Mental Health
- PBIS
- Reading
- Suicide Prevention



RenewaTeachingLicense.com



ANCHOR POINT

651.200.8443

truss@anchorpointsolutions.org

**Your Strategic Partner for
Mission-Driven Success.**

AnchorPointSolutions.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Minnesota Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (MNSAA) is a catalyst for enhancing the quality of Preschool through Grade 12 nonpublic education in Minnesota through a comprehensive process of accreditation.

WHO MAY SEEK ACCREDITATION?

MNSAA is a Minnesota based organization that is recognized by the State of Minnesota as an accrediting agency. MNSAA accredits MN nonpublic schools that have been in existence for at least two years and have 501c3 nonprofit status. Nonpublic schools are private institutions of learning in which a resident may legally fulfill our State Compulsory Instruction Law. They are institutions of learning that have one: unified mission, administration, consistent curriculum, and local governing authority.

WHY SEEK ACCREDITATION?

CREDIBILITY

Delivers recognized credibility of the quality of the school's program in the eyes of stakeholders and the public.

VALIDATION OF EXCELLENCE

Offers objective outside validation that a school has met high standards of excellence and is actively seeking a quality education program.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Provides for long-range strategic planning focused on student achievement and ongoing school improvement.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Provides local and ongoing accountability as schools provide annual reports identifying progress achieving goals, new opportunities or obstacles to growth, communication with stakeholders, and monitors the progress of its learners.

WHAT ARE MEMBERSHIP COSTS?

Member schools of MNSAA pay annual dues reflective of the number of students enrolled. The cost to schools is a flat rate of \$300 plus \$2.75 per student. Our Annual Conference is supported by a registration fee. There are additional expenses associated with renewal and onsite visits. Reasonable fees for services and benefits are possible because MNSAA utilizes the generosity and talent of volunteers from our membership.

OVERVIEW OF OUR ACCREDITATION

MNSAA enhances the quality of education through a process of self-evaluation and ongoing improvement. An essential and vital principle is that our schools are evaluated in terms of how well they are guided by their own mission. Respect is given to the differences that exist among accredited schools. We subscribe to a traditional accreditation process in which every 7 years member schools are required to complete an extensive self-evaluation based on MNSAA standards. As a result of this reflection, a school develops a visionary strategic plan for improvement.

MNSAA ACCREDITATION STANDARDS:

- Mission & Philosophy
- Teaching & Learning
- Climate for Learning
- Communications & Relations
- Personnel
- Leadership & Governance
- School Strategic Plan



MINNESOTA NONPUBLIC SCHOOL ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION

205 Lexington Avenue, New Prague, MN 56071

507.222.9205 | vicki.marvin@mnsaa.org | mnsaa.org