Register for Summer Seminar

Only 4 weeks left to sign up!

Registration is now open for the 2014 MSBA Summer Seminar: Partnership & Leadership. The Summer Seminar is set for Monday, August 4, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest hotel in Brooklyn Park. In addition, there are a number of pre- and post-seminar training opportunities available for members: an Officers’ Workshop and Early Bird Workshop (“Teaching Each Other Good Digital Citizenship”) on Sunday, August 3, and a Phase I-Phase II Training Combo on Tuesday, August 5.

Please visit www.mnmsba.org/SummerSeminar for more information.

Get in the Fast Track lane and pick an issue you’d like to learn more about

Summer Seminar afternoon sessions let members choose three 30-minute offerings on topics of interest:

- **Q & A with the Commissioner:** Commissioner Brenda Cassellius will update board members on the latest initiatives and offer time for questions on a variety of public education issues.
- **Plan the Final Months of Your Referenda Campaign:** Morris Leatherman Company President William Morris will offer a few tips on what your board, staff and Yes committee can do for a successful campaign.
- **World’s Best Work Force Reporting Requirements:** Steve Dibb from the Minnesota Department of Education will provide guidance on school district reports that must be completed by Oct. 1.
- **Advocacy 101: Becoming a More Effective Advocate:** MSBA’s Government Relations team of Grace Keliher and Denise Dittrich offer an advocacy roadmap to make board members better advocates for schools.
- **Case Law Update:** MSBA’s Cathy Miller talks about recent court decisions and how they could affect you.

Keynote Speaker to motivate you about leadership & partnership

Success in today’s world requires an extraordinary amount of raw people skills. You have to know how to build relationships so teamwork becomes a reality. Learn how to encourage people to work with you, instead of against you.

MSBA’s keynote speaker, Dr. Alan Zimmerman, will show how the best leaders bring out the best in others.

Hotel accommodations

Please reserve your hotel room by July 25 to take advantage of a special rate. The Summer Seminar — and the other pre- and post-seminar workshops — will be held at:

Minneapolis Marriott Northwest
7025 Northland Drive North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

Local phone number: 763-536-8300

Click here to make your reservation online or call 877-303-1681 and ask for the “MSBA Summer Seminar group rate.”
Phase I-II Combo open for board member registration

For your convenience, MSBA has combined two important training sessions into one day-long event 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park.

The combination program includes the training state law requires board members to complete (M.S. 123B.09, Subd. 2). MSBA's Phase Orientation Series is designed to promote good governance and productive working relationships. Topics include state education finance, school district budgets, local levies, key education laws, the role of the school board, and more.

Log in at www.mnmsba.org and go to the Members Area to register. Please coordinate your registration through your superintendent.

Summer Seminar Early Bird Workshop
“Teaching Each Other Good Digital Citizenship”

Get a top-to-bottom view of issues surrounding digital citizenship in the schools. Morgan Godfrey (attorney, O’Meara, Leer, Wagner & Kohl) will talk about a school district’s responsibility and authority for student discipline regarding campus and off-campus electronic communication.

Mark Lanterman (chief technology officer for Computer Forensic Services) will review current technologies and types of communication media that students use and what districts can anticipate for technologies of the future.

Mark Bezek (Elk River Area School District superintendent) will share lessons learned from a district that is helping students, staff and parents act respectful, responsible and ethical in a web-based world without rules and boundaries, and unforeseen consequences. Registration is only $85. This Early Bird runs 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest. Register now at www.mnmsba.org.

Charter School Board Member Training

Tuesday, August 5, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Minneapolis Marriott Northwest

- Tuition: $175 (walk-ins add $20) Lunch is included.

MSBA has scheduled a Charter School Board Training Workshop for Tuesday, August 5, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest hotel in Brooklyn Park. MSBA is offering all three state-required training components for charter school board members: Board Governance, Financial Matters and Employment Matters.

Visit www.mnmsba.org/LearningCenter/CharterSchoolBoardTraining to download a registration form. For more information, please contact MSBA’s Sandy Gundlach at sgundlach@mnmsba.org.

A new board member must begin the required initial training within six months after being seated and complete that training within 12 months.

Officers’ Workshop

Sunday, August 3, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Minneapolis Marriott Northwest

- Tuition: $150 (walk-ins add $20) Lunch is included.

Review statutory duties of board officers, learn about the Open Meeting Law and practice some scenarios for using Robert’s Rules of Order.

Special breakout sessions are also available for school treasurers, clerks and chairs.

Registration is available in Event Registration at www.mnmsba.org for the Officers’ Workshop. Please coordinate your registration through your district office.

“As a veteran school board member of 7 years, I took the Phase I & II as a refresher course. They were both absolutely excellent!”
MSBA Endorses National Joint Powers Alliance Purchasing Program

After considerable research and effort, MSBA is enthusiastically announcing its endorsement of the National Joint Powers Alliance® (NJPA) Contract Purchasing Program. NJPA is a Minnesota entity located in Staples, Minnesota, that reinvests in Minnesota public schools via educational programs and other product and service offerings.

A huge drawing card for NJPA is the design of its program. Many cooperative purchasing ventures take the approach of requesting bids on very specific product offerings. Using an automobile analogy, a cooperative purchasing program may request a bid on a blue, two-door Chevy sedan. The customer may get a great deal on this specific vehicle, but, if the customer needs a white, four-door sedan instead, the cost of an off-the-list item may become unaffordable. NJPA, on the other-hand, negotiates a contract with a vendor for all products offered by the vendor at a specific reduction (savings) in price. This approach results in the customer having options and getting the needed product (solution) at an affordable price.

Membership in NJPA’s Contract Purchasing Program is free and enrollment is simple. MSBA encourages members to consider NJPA’s Contract Purchasing Program for all their procurement needs. Members can find a link to NJPA’s website at MSBA’s Endorsed Products and Services page.

MSBA summer office hours in effect through Aug. 29

MSBA’s summer office hours — 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday — will run from Monday, June 2, through Friday, August 29. Members can call the office during those days and times at 800-324-4459 or 507-934-2450.

Feature your students’ art in the MSBA Journal Magazine

The MSBA Journal Magazine has openings to feature student art in the 2014 calendar year. Just tell your art teachers to send 10 to 15 print-quality images to Greg Abbott at gabbott@mnmsba.org. There is no cost to submit your student art. For more information, call Greg at 800-324-4459.
Student Handbook available to MSBA’s Policy Services members

MSBA’s Model Student Handbook helps school districts provide information and required notices to students and parents or guardians. The Model Student Handbook is comprised of four sections: (1) Information, (2) Academics, (3) Rules & Discipline, and (4) Health & Safety.

The handbook includes:
- Notices that are required by law and/or policy
- Table of contents for easy reference
- Appendix of key MSBA Model Policies referenced in handbook

The MSBA Model Student Handbook is available to members of MSBA’s Policy Services for $575. For more information, contact MSBA’s Cathy Miller at 800-324-4459 or cmiller@mnmsba.org.

MSBA Superintendent Search Service available

Looking for a superintendent? Call on MSBA’s Superintendent Search Service to assist you. Please visit www.mnmsba.org/SuperintendentSearchService for more information.

Also, MSBA’s Superintendent Search Workshop helps boards conduct a successful superintendent search. An MSBA staff member will conduct this workshop at your board meeting. The cost is $900 (includes expenses).

Visit www.mnmsba.org/SuperintendentSearchWorkshop or contact Sandy Gundlach at sgundlach@mnmsba.org for more details.

Take advantage of MSBA’s Master Agreement Analysis Service

Because a written analysis generally takes between two and three weeks to complete, now, before the rush begins, is the best time for districts to send to MSBA the Master Agreements they wish to have analyzed. This extremely popular and valuable MSBA service is provided as follows: the analysis of a district’s first Master Agreement is $950, and the analysis of each additional Master Agreement from that district is $750. To take advantage of this MSBA service, please send an electronic copy of the Master Agreement(s) to be analyzed, along with a cover message asking for the analysis(es), to shonetschlager@mnmsba.org. A hard copy(ies) of the completed analysis(es) and the corresponding invoice will be returned to the districts, and an electronic copy of the analysis(es) will be provided upon request.

Personnel Notes

Principals
- Winona Area is accepting applications for a high school principal through July 6.
- Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop is accepting applications for a high school principal through July 11.

Other Administration
- Elk River Area is accepting applications for an executive director of Labor Relations and Personnel Services through July 25.

Visit www.mnmsba.org/DistrictJobOpenings for application/contact information.
Protection assurance when you need it.

The Minnesota School Boards Association Insurance Trust (MSBAIT) endorses companies with a proven record of service.

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Find out what MSBAIT can do for your district.

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Visit www.mnmsba.org/msbait.

Amy Fullenkamp-Taylor ataylor@mnmsba.org

Denise Drill ddrill@mnmsba.org

Gary Lee glee@mnmsba.org

John Sylvester jsylvester@mnmsba.org

MSBAIT — addressing the needs of public schools’ risk-management programs since 1972