



MNSAA
MINNESOTA NONPUBLIC SCHOOL ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION



Accredit-Memo from MNSAA

March 2019

The sun is brighter and days are longer. Can't be anything wrong in Minnesota these spring days!

In this edition of our Association's monthly newsletter, you hear about:

- New changes to your [Annual Progress Report](#) - Due June 15, 2019
- [2019-20 MNSAA Annual Dues & Fees](#) update - Based on end of year enrollment in 2019
- Get ready for our [2019 Annual Conference](#)
- [Dual accreditation with MNSAA](#): Partnerships with AdvancED & Middle States Association
- Planning for [analyzing assessment data](#) to guide future instruction
- Invitation to participate in MDE's [2019 Multilingual Learner Summit](#)
- Improving student achievement with [Effective Title Programs](#)

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions about MNSAA accreditation.

Stay dry!

Sarah W. Mueller

Executive Director



2019 Annual Progress Report

Due: June 15, 2019

What's New this Year?



Your MNSAA Board of Directors is concerned that we continue to move our Association schools forward in successfully meeting all of our accreditation standards. From this concern, they have identified essential areas that schools appear to need some additional support. In 2019, we are encouraging compliance with Standards **#4.07 Annual Report to Stakeholders** and **#5.08: The Evaluation Process** - teachers only in 2019.

The board does not want to add to the work that our school leaders are already doing, so they have worked diligently to streamline the process. You will find that the reporting document is connected into one streaming template. You will only need to send one piece of evidence to support your narration that stakeholders are advised on your progress meeting strategically planned improvement goals - your **Annual State-of-the-School Report**.

Look for these changes to come:

1. **All narrative reports will be strung into one template** for uploading (or emailing directly)
2. Schools are required to file their **State-of-the-School annual report to stakeholders** as evidence that the strategic plan is known. This report needs to include at a minimum: **Summary of SSP Progress & Upcoming Improvement Initiatives.**

3. Finally, we will seek to learn about [teacher evaluation](#). Specifically, plan to these questions:

- o Provide a written description of the evaluation process for school teachers;
- o Check box if all teachers have a written evaluation in their personnel files for the 2018-19 academic year; and
- o Advise in a narrative what you have learned from this process that will inform future decisions.

Be advised that with regard to Component 3 the board plans to solicit information related to varying standards in coming years. We are happy to provide a listing of what to look forward to in the future upon request.

Resources are now available on our website for your use if you are interested in getting ahead of this requirement. Download the [2019 Annual Progress Report Template](#) and Instructions here.



2019-20 Annual Dues & Fees Announcement



Your MNSAA Board of Directors works hard to ensure that our services are provided at an affordable cost to every Minnesota nonpublic school who desires local and ongoing over site and accreditation. At a recent Board Retreat, an analysis of our income avenues and expenses resulted in a very slight increase in Annual Dues & Fees for the upcoming school year. **Plan now** for payment after July 1, 2019 for the next academic year.

- Schools with 1-100 students: \$310 per school
- Schools with 101-550 students: \$3.10 per students
- Schools 551 students or more: \$1665 per school

Optional preschool accreditation, late fees, and renewal (or new) application fees apply.

[Check here for the full 2019-20 Dues & Fees Structure](#)



Save the Date!
MONDAY, November 4, 2019
Connections are Key!



We are delighted to announce that [All Saints School](#) in Lakeville has offered to host our Annual Conference this year. The school has ample space for parking, is easily accessible off Interstate 35 and a heart to share their beautiful space. Please note that our conference will be held on **MONDAY** this year. We are grateful the All Saints School community is choosing to give up their professional staff day to MNSAA.

Connections are Key! The day will be an exceptional opportunity for leaders and teachers to reflect on meeting the needs of the whole child, including their affective social and emotional needs. We are especially pleased that [Dr. Julene Nolan](#) from [Phoenix School Consulting](#) has agreed to be our keynote speaker for the event.

GREAT NEWS! The MNSAA Board of Directors recently discerned that **reduced rates will be offered** to schools who choose to **send a team of 10 or more** from their school - in fact, the attendance per individual will be reduced by 30%! We are excited to watch our conference keep growing. Individual rates will remain at \$150 a day - a super bargain for an amazing day of connecting and learning.



[Consider submitting a Speaker Proposal today!](#)



Dual Accreditation with MNSAA + Regional Agencies

Save Time and Money with MNSAA in the Lead

Your Association has entered partnership agreements with two regional agencies. We are aware that some of Minnesota's nonpublic schools are not choosing our process and protocols. From this perspective, we set about learning how we could better benefit our schools by offering dual accreditation.

Currently, MNSAA is in partnership agreements with both AdvancED and Middle State Association - both high recognized and distinguished agencies with national and international reputations.

We are very delighted that in each case, these regional agencies have agreed that MNSAA's processes and protocols will lead all dual accreditation relationships. That is, our seven year cycle and standards will prevail. The bottom line is that schools will be afforded these benefits with little action:

- Local and ongoing over site of your school with easy access to leadership
- A seven-year cycle of accreditation (versus 5 years)
- MNSAA is cost effective
- Easy access to information about Minnesota's laws governing nonpublic schools
- Regional recognition and access to school improvement resources



[Contact MNSAA](#) today to learn the easy steps required for your school to achieve dual accreditation!



Analyzing Assessment Data to Guide Instruction

Are Your Learners Demonstrating Achievement?

MNSAA Standard **#2.11: Monitoring Academic Standards** requires that our accredited schools evaluate the extent to which students are meeting defined learning targets, or curriculum standards. We want to know that your school is documenting student growth and achievement over time using a norm-referenced standardized test and a variety of curriculum-based assessments. Our expectations is the the faculty is using assessment results to guide curriculum and instructional decisions. Further, we expect that a consistent criteria for evaluation and reporting learner progress is in place.

[Contact us today](#) for more information or for support with this essential work!



Invitation to the 2019 Multilingual Learner Summit

April 10, 2019



The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and their distinguished partners cordially invite you to join the [2019 Multilingual Learner Summit: "Bridging Communities and Global Opportunities."](#) The summit will convene business and education practitioners to engage in critical dialogue about the future state of Minnesota's multilingual learners. As leaders in our respective fields

dialogue about the future state of Minnesota's multilingual learners. As leaders in our respective fields, we will deliberate on the collective impact of embracing multilingualism as an economic powerhouse and essential business strategy in the 21st century.

Date: April 10, 2019

Time: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location:

Atwood Memorial Center Ballroom, St. Cloud State University, 720 4th Ave. South, St. Cloud, MN 56301

[Register for the 2019 Multilingual Learner Summit.](#)

The following day on Thursday, April 11, 2019, you are also invited to join the "**English Learner Convening: Ensuring Equal Opportunities for Global Proficiency and Awareness**" sponsored by Global Immersion, World Savvy and St. Cloud State University (SCSU). This is a professional development opportunity for educators to network and engage in dialogue examining the conditions and practices that can offer all students a globally conscious education. Registration for the April 11, 2019, will be coming soon.

For more information or for assistance with registration, please contact [Michelle Niska](#) at the Minnesota Department of Education.



Spring Title Programs Training Improving Student Achievement with Effective Title Programs

This workshop will focus on building strong Title I, II, III and IV programs to increase student achievement.

- Recommended team attendees: Principals, Title program coordinators, Title I teachers or interventionists, classroom or other teachers or members of your leadership team.
- While business managers are welcome to attend, minimal Title application preparation and SERVS information will be included in this training.
- Separate Title application preparation and SERVS information webinars will be provided later.

Focusing on the steps required for continuous improvement, this interactive training will lead to greater student achievement through strong program development. Using the five-step process, a pre-K through 12th grade continuous improvement process, participants will strengthen their leadership team and current programming. Participants will also be introduced to best practice strategies and setting priorities. By the end of the day, initial planning for the 2019-20 school year and beyond will have taken place.

Learn how the Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) cycle will enhance student achievement through the alignment of your Title I, II, III and IV programs.

This workshop will include resources, tools, and practical application, as well as team time to begin using the five-step process.

For information regarding dates, locations and registration links, please visit the [Elementary and Secondary Education Act \(ESEA\)/Federal Title Programs](#) page of the Minnesota Department of Education website.

[Visit our website for news and more!](#)