

**Sarah Mueller**

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**From:** Minnesota Nonpublic School Accrediting Association  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 8, 2019 11:23 AM  
**To:** smueller@mnsaa.org  
**Subject:** Accreditation Memo from MNSAA



**MNSAA**  
MINNESOTA NONPUBLIC SCHOOL ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION



## Accredit-Memo from MNSAA

**August 2019**

August is the time when our school leaders begin to plan for their halls to once again ring with the joyous sound of engaged learners and happy teachers. It is our hope that this month's **Accredit Memo** will support you in getting ahead of all things related to MNSAA accreditation.

In this edition you will find the following information:

- **Check your mailbox** for your school's [accreditation certificate & annual dues invoice](#)
- Opportunity for [New Principal Training](#) on **Thursday, October 3**
- Filing your [2019 Basic Information Report](#) due by October 15
- Register for our **Annual Conference: Connections are Key** on Monday, November 4
- MNSAA's requirement for [Criminal Background Checks](#)
- Your [MNSAA Board of Directors](#) at work!
- Breaking open **MNSAA's Core Values: Integrity**

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

Best wishes for abundant blessings in this new academic year!

**Sarah W. Mueller**  
Executive Director



**Accreditation Certification & Annual Dues Invoices**  
**Back to School Mailing**

Earlier in August, a large white envelop arrived at your school via USPS mail from MNSAA. This Back to School mailing contains essential information including the following:

- **Accreditation Certificate(s)** - MNSAA and your National Federation
- **Annual Dues Invoices** for 2019-20 (based on enrollment at close of the last academic year)
- **Month-by-Month Guide** to guide you in keeping up with MNSAA requirements
- **Conference Registration** - Plan now to send a whole team at a discounted rate
- 2019-20 MNSAA **Statement of Compliance** to be reviewed with your governing leader

Contact [smueller@mnsaa.org](mailto:smueller@mnsaa.org) if you do not receive yours by August 15



## New to Year 2 Principal Training Thursday, October 3, 2019

In the past two years, our Association of schools have hired over 60 new principals! While not all are unfamiliar with our accreditation requirements and processes, many are. The Board of Directors wants to be certain that all of our leaders have the understanding and resources necessary to be successful in this essential work. As such, we are offering training opportunities in three places across the state. There is no cost for this training session and CEUs will be provided. Whether you are new to MNSAA or would just like a refresher course, plan now to attend one of our sessions from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** (lunch will be provided) at one of the following locations:

- **Brainerd** - Location to be determined
- **New Ulm** - Location to be determined
- **St. Paul** - Holy Spirit Church & School

Contact [Director Mueller](#) to register for this opportunity!



## 2019 Basic Information Reports Due by October 15, 2019

Consider posting your report today! [Use this link to download](#) the protected Word Doc to complete and file by uploading through your member portal or send as an email attachment to [smueller@mnsaa.org](mailto:smueller@mnsaa.org). If you anticipate significant adjustments to your enrollment before October 1st, you may want to wait - but, we can always adjust your enrollment later.

Improvements to our Basic Information Report will likely please our schools! The process has been streamlined and it only takes a few minutes to complete.



## MNSAA: Connections are Key! MONDAY, November 4, 2019 [Register online today!](#)



**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 to announce **Dr. Julene Nolan** from [Phoenix School Counseling](#) as our keynote speaker for the event.

We will all be welcomed by **All Saints School** in **Lakeville** this year. The school has ample space for parking, is easily accessible off Interstate 35 and the heart to share their beautiful space. Please note that our conference

will be held on **MONDAY** this year. We are grateful the All Saints community is choosing to give up their professional staff day to MNSAA.



**GREAT NEWS! Reduced rates will be offered** to schools who **send a team of 10 or more** from their school! Individual rates will remain at \$150 a day - a super bargain for an amazing day of connecting and learning. We are excited to watch our conference keep growing.

**Speaker Proposal are now being accepted!**

We hope you will submit one soon!



### **Criminal Background Checks\*** **MNSAA Standard #5.06**

To meet this legal requirement, criminal history background checks on individuals who are employed in the school need to be completed. After the date of original employment, MNSAA does not prescribe how frequently they need to be rechecked. Evidence must be provided in personnel records that a Bureau of Criminal Apprehension check has been completed.

(\*[MN Statute 123B.03](#) and [122A.18](#) - *Background Checks and Licensing*)



### **MNSAA Board of Directors** **At Work in the Summer!**

The dedication and work of the MNSAA Board of Directors is essential to support our Association schools by maintaining the quality of our accreditation standards, processes, and practices. They met as a work group for two days this summer and accomplished much! The following is **a brief summary** of the work completed discussed, and/or begun:

- Deep review and revision of the **MNSAA standards** to increase clarity, reduce redundancy, and include preschool components
- Filed an application through DHS to achieve **Parent Aware** star rating
- Defined revisions for the **2020 Annual Progress Report** (more information coming soon)
- Began the development of a **Live Binder** of resources to support schools through our accreditation process
- Determined locations and content for **New Principal training** in October
- Identified resources that need to transition to the cloud and/or **Google Docs**
- Planned for the **2019 Annual Conference**

- Redefined **conditional accreditation** status

Your Board is comprised of highly skilled and experienced volunteers to give tirelessly of their time and experience to support high quality academic programs in nonpublic schools across our state. **They are simply amazing!**



## MNSAA's Core Values: **Integrity**



MNSAA's reflects a credible account of the excellence of a school program in the eyes of stakeholders and the public by maintaining high standards for accreditation. We support our schools in their values and foundational missions and philosophies. Our process and practices are robust, durable, stable, and sound. MNSAA provides a pathway for the unification of all of Minnesota's nonpublic schools. **Together, in solidarity as nonpublic schools, we are always better!**

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

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