



2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Mission

MISF connects and strengthens Minnesota's independent schools through exceptional training, resources, and advocacy so they can be student-centered and mission-driven.



WE BELIEVE:

When every independent school is connected and strong, Minnesota's families will be able to select the school that best fits their children, and Minnesota's students will excel.

Our communities are facing rapid change, and we need agile young people who are prepared to solve complex challenges and embrace new opportunities—this will only happen if all students have the opportunity to attend the school that is the best fit for them.

WE CONNECT SCHOOL LEADERS to each other and build their capacity through access to critical resources so that they are able to lead schools that thrive and meet the needs of their students, families, and staff.

WE CREATE MEANINGFUL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES for staff and teachers to learn from each other and develop new skills so that they are equipped to build exceptional schools and deliver high quality education for all students.

WE ADVOCATE with a focused and united voice so that local and state policy makers will understand and support policies and practices that strengthen Minnesota's independent schools.

Dear friends of Minnesota Independent School Forum:

We are pleased to present the 2018-19 Annual Report. We take this opportunity to report to you, our members, sponsors, donors and ambassadors about our continuing efforts to connect and strengthen Minnesota's independent schools.

Several key priorities and enhancements to our organization were implemented this year, which has further extended our mission.

- Piloted the MISF Community Partnership to Advance STEM Learning with partner organizations Science from Scientists and The Bakken. These partnerships brought strong curricular and practical STEM learning to schools across our diverse membership
- Member retention remained at a robust 94%
- We provided more than \$100,000 in direct funding support via STEM grants to schools. MISF has now funded more than \$1,100,00 in STEM projects and programs in member schools in the last 12 years

- Invested in a sustained legislative presence to ensure the rights, resources and best interests of students, educators and leaders in private and independent schools are respected, recognized and defended

We offer our thanks to Greg Chamberlain, Tom Delich and Randy Kroll as they complete their terms of service on our board of directors. MISF has been blessed by their intense and passionate leadership to MISF and our mission.

We thank you for your investment that allows the mission of MISF to flourish. With your engagement and financial investment, MISF will continue to advocate and fight for the 65,000 students in Minnesota's private and independent schools.



Josh Killian
Chair, Board of Directors



Tim Benz
President

2018 – 2019 MEMBER SCHOOLS

MISF member schools represent a strong cross-section of faith affiliations, educational philosophies, and geographic and cultural diversity.

During 2018-19, MISF's membership network consisted of 156 schools serving 33,795 students.

Academy of Holy Angels
Richfield, 9-12

Academy of Whole Learning
St. Louis Park, K-12

Al-Amal School
Fridley, PK-12

Annunciation School
Minneapolis, K-8

Ascension School
Minneapolis, K-8

Avail Academy
Blaine, K-8

Avail Academy
Edina, K-8

Avail Academy
Fridley, 9-12

Benilde-St. Margaret's
St. Louis Park, 7-12

Bethany Academy
Minneapolis, K-12

Bethlehem Academy
Faribault, 7-12

Blessed Trinity School
(Nicollet Campus) Richfield, PK-8

Blessed Trinity School
(Penn Campus) Richfield, PK-8

Carondelet Catholic School
Minneapolis, K-8

Central Minnesota Christian School
Prinsburg, PK-12

Christ Community Lutheran School
Watertown, PK-8

Christ Lutheran School
North St. Paul, K-8

Christian Heritage Academy
Rosemount, PK-8

Christian Life Academy
Farmington, PK-12

Community of Saints Regional Catholic School
West St. Paul, PK-8

Concordia Academy - Roseville
Roseville, 9-12

Cotter Schools
Winona, 7-12

Cretin-Derham Hall
St. Paul, 9-12

Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
Minneapolis, 9-12

Crown of Life Lutheran School
West St. Paul, PK-8

DeLaSalle High School
Minneapolis, 9-12

Edgerton Christian Elementary School
Edgerton, PK-8

Emanuel Lutheran School
Hamburg, PK-8

Faribault Lutheran School
Faribault, K-8

First Evangelical Lutheran School
Glencoe, PK-8

Frassati Catholic Academy
White Bear Lake, PK-8

Gethsemane School
Maplewood, PK-8

Glory Academy
Lakeville, PK-12

Good Shepherd Lutheran School
Burnsville, PK-8

Hand in Hand Christian Montessori
Roseville, PK-8

Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School
Minneapolis, K-8

Heritage Christian Academy
Maple Grove, K-12

Highland Catholic School
St. Paul, PK-8

Hillcrest Lutheran Academy
Fergus Falls, 7-12

Hill-Murray School
St. Paul, 6-12

Holy Family Catholic High School
Victoria, 9-12

Holy Name of Jesus School
Wayzata, PK-6

Holy Spirit Catholic School
St. Paul, PK-8

Holy Spirit School
Rochester, K-8

Holy Trinity Catholic School
Pierz, PK-6

Holy Trinity School
Winsted, PK-12

Hope Lutheran High School
Winona, 9-12

Immanuel Lutheran School
Plainview, PK-8

John Ireland School
St. Peter, K-6

King of Grace Lutheran School
Golden Valley, PK-8

King of Kings Lutheran School
Roseville, PK-8

Legacy Christian Academy
Andover, PK-12

Liberty Classical Academy
White Bear Lake, PK-12

Life Academy
Bloomington, PK-8

Lourdes High School
Rochester, 9-12

Loyola Catholic School
Mankato, PK-12

Magnuson Christian School
White Bear Lake, K-6

Maplewood Academy
Hutchinson, 9-12

Maranatha Christian Academy
Brooklyn Park, PK-12

Martin Luther High School
Northrop, 9-12

Mary Queen of Peace School
Rogers, PK-6

Mayer Lutheran High School
Mayer, 9-12

Minnehaha Academy
Minneapolis, 9-12

Minnehaha Academy (South Campus)
Minneapolis, PK-8

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School
New Ulm, 9-12

Minnetonka Christian Academy
Minnetonka, PK-8

Morning Son Christian School
Fergus Falls, PK-6

Most Holy Redeemer Catholic School
Montgomery, PK-8

Nativity of Mary School
Bloomington, PK-8

Nativity of Our Lord School
St. Paul, PK-8

New Life Academy
Woodbury, PK-12

New Ulm Area Catholic Schools
New Ulm, PK-12

Notre Dame Academy
Minnetonka, PK-8

Oak Hill Montessori
Shoreview, PK-8

Our Lady of Peace School
Minneapolis, K-8

Pacelli Elementary School
Austin, PK-5

Pacelli Middle/High School
Austin, 6-12

Park Christian School
Moorhead, K-12

Petra Lutheran School
Sauk Rapids, K-8

Pine Harbor Christian Academy
Hastings, PK-8

Pioneers Academy
Brooklyn Park, K-4

Prairie Lutheran School
Fairfax, PK-8

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Maplewood, PK-8

Risen Christ School
Minneapolis, K-8

Risen Savior Lutheran School
Mankato, K-8

Rochester Arts & Sciences Academy
Rochester, PK-5

Sacred Heart Catholic School
Robbinsdale, PK-8

Saint Agnes School
St. Paul, K-12

Saint Helena
Minneapolis, K-8

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton School
Hastings, PK-8

Saint John's Preparatory School
Collegeville, 6-12

Saint Thomas Academy
Mendota Heights, 7-12

School of St. Philip
Litchfield, PK-5

Southwest Christian High School
Chaska, 9-12

Southwest Minnesota Christian High School
Edgerton, 9-12

St. Alphonsus School
Brooklyn Center, PK-8

St. Boniface School
Cold Spring, PK-6

St. Charles Borromeo School
Minneapolis, PK-8

St. Croix Catholic School
Stillwater, PK-8

St. Croix Lutheran Academy
West St. Paul, 6-12

St. Croix Montessori School
Stillwater, PK-8

St. Dominic School
Northfield, PK-8

St. Francis of Assisi School
Rochester, K-8

St. Hubert School
Chanhassen, PK-8

St. Jerome School
Maplewood, PK-8

St. John Lutheran School
Elk River, K-8

St. John Lutheran School
Redwood Falls, PK-8

St. John Paul II Prep School
Minneapolis, K-8

St. John the Baptist Catholic School
Savage, PK-8

St. John the Evangelist School
Rochester, 5-8

St. John's Lutheran School
Lake City, PK-8

St. John Vianney School
Fairmont, PK-6

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran School
Caledonia, PK-8

St. John's Lutheran School
Chaska, PK-8

St. John's Lutheran School
Norwood Young America, PK-8

St. Joseph Catholic School
Waconia, PK-8

St. Joseph's School
Grand Rapids, PK-6

St. Joseph's School
Moorhead, PK-8

St. Joseph's School
West St. Paul, PK-8

St. Jude of the Lake School
Mahtomedi, K-5

St. Mark's School
St. Paul, PK-8

St. Mary's Elementary School
Sleepy Eye, PK-6

St. Mary's High School
Sleepy Eye, 7-12

St. Mary's School
Morris, PK-6

St. Mary's School
Owatonna, PK-8

St. Michael Catholic School
Prior Lake, PK-8

St. Michael Catholic School
St. Michael, PK-8

St. Odilia School
Shoreview, K-8

St. Pascal Baylon School
St. Paul, PK-8

St. Paul's Lutheran School
New Ulm, PK-8

St. Paul's Lutheran School
Prior Lake, PK-8

St. Paul's Lutheran School
St. James, K-8

St. Peter Catholic School
Forest Lake, PK-6

St. Peter Catholic School
North St. Paul, PK-8

St. Peter Claver
St. Paul, K-8

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran School
St. Peter, PK-8

St. Pius X School
Rochester, PK-4

Sts. Peter & Paul School
Richmond, K-5

Stella Maris Academy-Holy Rosary Campus
Duluth, PK-4

Stella Maris Academy-St. James Campus
Duluth, PK-8

Stella Maris Academy-St. John's Campus
Duluth, 5-8

Sunny Hollow Montessori
St. Paul, PK-6

The Way of the Shepherd Montessori
Blaine, PK-6

Totino-Grace High School
Fridley, 9-12

Trinity First Lutheran School
Minneapolis, K-8

Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran School
Eagan, PK-8

Trinity Lutheran School
Belle Plaine, PK-8

Trinity Lutheran School
Janesville, PK-8

Trinity Lutheran School
St. Francis, PK-8

Trinity Lutheran School
Waconia, PK-8

Veritas Academy
North Branch, K-12

West Lutheran High School
Plymouth, 9-12

White Bear Montessori School
White Bear Lake, PK-6

Winona Area Catholic Schools
Winona, PK-6

Yeshiva of Minneapolis
Minneapolis, 9-12

Zion Lutheran School
Mayer, PK-8

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Karla Cross

*Director, Office of Catholic Schools
Diocese of New Ulm*

Sarah Mueller

*Executive Director
Minnesota Nonpublic School
Accrediting Association*

Sean Martens

*Education Executive
Minnesota South District – LCMS*

Marsha Stenzel

*Director of Catholic Education
Diocese of Winona*

Cynthia Zook

*Director of Schools
Diocese of Duluth*



MINNESOTA
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL FORUM

2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice Chairperson

Teri McCloughan*

Attorney, Stapleton & McCloughan, PLLC

Secretary

Dr. Wyayn Rasmussen*

Executive Director, Academy of Whole Learning

Treasurer

Randy Kroll*

Consultant, The Platinum Group

President

Tim Benz*

Minnesota Independent School Forum

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Sumita B. Mitra, Ph.D. - *Partner & Co-owner, Mitra Chemical Consulting LLC*

John McCall - *Consultant, JE McCall Consulting*

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Kari Staples - *Principal, St. Alphonsus Catholic School*

BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS

Rosa Miller - *Vice President, Latin America, 3M (Retired)*

** Executive Committee*

2018-2019 MISF STAFF



Tim Benz
President

Debbie Kaliszewski
Business Manager

Michele Skare
Administrative Assistant

Lisa Vosbeek
Director of Development & Programs

CONSULTANT

Beth Murphy
STEM Program Manager

PRESIDENT'S CABINET



The President's Cabinet is a volunteer group of community leaders with a passion for private and independent education. The purpose of the Cabinet is to connect advocates and ambassadors to the mission of MISF, which connects and strengthens Minnesota's independent schools through exceptional training, resources, and advocacy so they can be student-centered and mission-driven. The Cabinet meets 2 times per year to discuss relevant and important topics in education and is open to people passionate about the ecosystem of independent and private education. Their commitment is important to MISF as it strives to bring more resources, information, and representation to Minnesota's 450 independent and private schools.

2018-2019 MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Greg Anklam - Senior Managing Director (Retired), RBC Wealth Management

Bob Chandler - Partner, Chandler and Brown, LTD

Anne Cullen Miller - President, Catholic Community Foundation

Tom Delich - Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, RBC Wealth Management

Mike Dickson - Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, RBC Capital Markets

Tom Farnham - Senior Risk Consultant, North Risk Partners

David Faust - President and CEO, Platinum Bank

Kenneth Holmen - President and CEO, CentraCare Health

Linda Holmen - Past MISF Board Chair

Dan Jaeger - Business Administrator, St. Patrick Catholic Church

Doug Jaeger - President and CEO, Ulteig

Robert Jones, DDS - Dr. Robert W. Jones DDS

Paul Jordan - CEO, Corval Group

Tom Keyes - Investment Advisor, Shamrock Wealth Management

Steve Lentz, J.D. - Gen. Counsel and Chief Compl. Office, Okabena Invest. Services

Kelly Matter - President and CEO, Avivo

John McCall - JE McCall Consulting

Sumita Mitra, Ph.D. - Mitra Chemical Consulting, LLC

Rosa Miller - VP 3M Latin America (Retired)

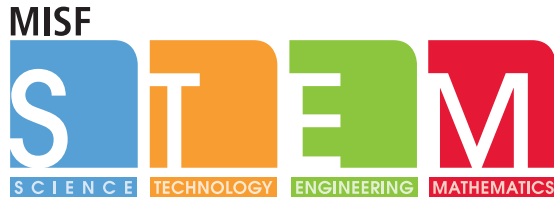
Blake Nelson - Attorney, Hellmuth & Johnson PLLP

Dennis Nigon - President (Retired), Rochester Catholic Schools

Phil Paquette - Principal, Boyum & Barenscbeer PLLP

Jon Theobald - Chairman Emeritus, Mairs & Power, Inc.

STEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE



MISF's STEM Advisory Committee engages representatives from the community who have expertise and a vested interest in high-quality STEM education. This committee serves as the review panel for the STEM Grant Program.

MEMBERS OF THE 2018-2019 STEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Greg Chamberlain - *Committee Chair, Xcel Energy*

Vikram Ghosh - *Ardent Mills*

John Henderson - *3M*

Dr. Jennifer Krieger - *Holy Spirit School, St. Paul*

Sumita Mitra, Ph.D. - *Mitra Chemical Consulting LLC*

Debbie Monson - *University of St. Thomas*

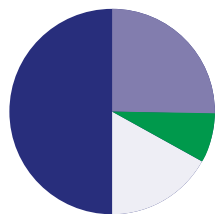
Justin Spencer - *The Bakken Museum*

Jorge Ulate - *General Mills*

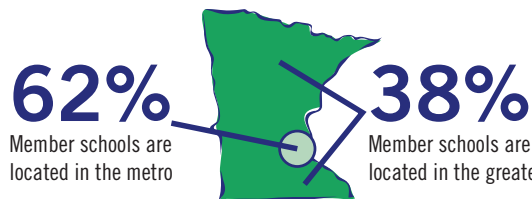
Beth Murphy, Ph.D. - *MISF STEM Program Manager*

2018-2019 FACTS ABOUT MISF

156 member schools
35% of market share



50% Catholic
25% Lutheran
19% Other Religious affiliation
6% Independent



94% Member Schools
Retention rate



249

STEM Grants
awarded to
member schools
since the program
began in 2008

33,795 Students
51% of market share



80%
Engagement rate
with 156 member schools



23 STEM Grants
awarded in 2018-19 totaling
\$106,999

8

Schools participated in the STEM Community Partnership Program
which allocated an additional **\$41,290** STEM resources to schools

2200

Hours of
Professional
Development
Training

\$1,200,854 STEM support awarded to member schools to date

2018-2019 PRIVATE & INDEPENDENT EDUCATION AWARDS

LEADERSHIP AWARD HONOREES



LEADERSHIP AWARD

Sister Judith Schaefer, OP, Ph.D., Cotter Schools



LEADERSHIP AWARD

Ric Gibson, M.A., St. Croix Lutheran Academy

2018-2019 PRIVATE & INDEPENDENT EDUCATION AWARDS

HONOR TEACHER AWARDEES



HONOR TEACHER (K-8)

Kade Drechsler, Academy of Whole Learning



HONOR TEACHER (9-12)

Emily Byrne, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School

2018-2019 PRIVATE & INDEPENDENT EDUCATION AWARDS

EDUCATION AWARDS HONOREES



BEHIND-THE-SCENES AWARD

Anne McQuillan, Saint Thomas Academy



COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD

Bonnie O'Connor, Risen Christ Catholic School



PROGRAM AWARD

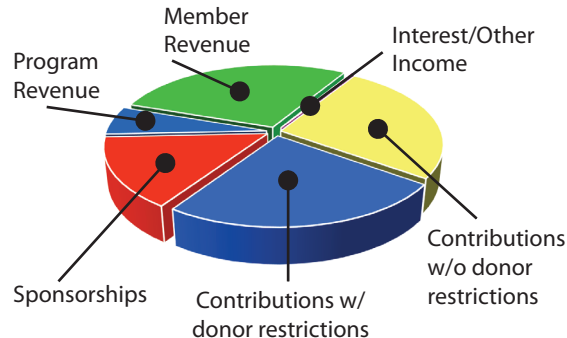
Forum for Inducting, Retaining & Supporting Teachers (F.I.R.S.T)

Kelly Capp, Maranatha Christian Academy

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY 2018-19

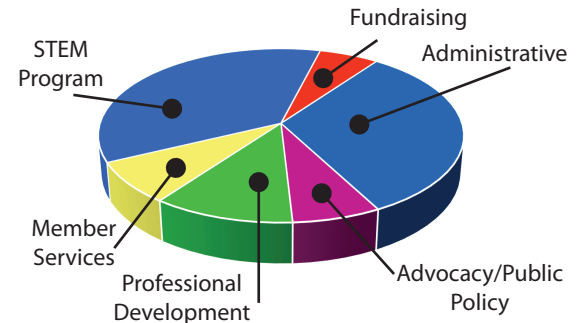
Revenue and Other Support

Contributions-without donor restrictions	\$142,413
Contributions-with donor restrictions	\$134,418
Sponsorships.....	\$81,500
Program Revenue.....	\$32,985
Member Revenue.....	\$154,809
Interest/Other Income.....	\$1,795
Net Assets released from restrictions and/or satisfaction of program restrictions.....	\$296,831
Total Revenue and Other Support.....	\$547,920



Expenses

Program Expenses	
Advocacy/Public Policy	\$48,469
Professional Development	\$77,294
Member Services	\$54,675
STEM Program.....	\$253,921
Fundraising.....	\$42,356
Administrative.....	\$226,760
Total Expenses.....	\$703,475
Change in Net Assets	-\$155,555
Net Assets-Beginning.....	\$547,841
Net Assets-Ending.....	\$392,286



2018-2019 DONOR RECOGNITION

MISF would like to thank the special donors who graciously support private and independent education through gifts of cash, stock, and in-kind donation. The following businesses, corporations, foundations, and individuals made contributions between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

\$40,000 - \$99,999

3M Foundation*
Helen Harrington Charitable Trust*
Schott Foundation*

\$25,000 - \$39,999

Hardenbergh Foundation*
Rosa M. Miller*
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation*

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Mr. & Mrs. William B. Frels/ Frels Family Foundation
Mairs and Power

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Boston Scientific Corporation
Catapult Learning, LLC
Philip and Connie Paquette*
RBC Wealth Management*
Jon and Lea Theobald*
Thrivent Financial

\$3,000 - \$4,999

Hamline University
Sumita and Smarajit Mitra
Patterson Companies, Inc.
Premier Banks*

\$1,000 - \$2,999

Alpha Omega Publications
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The Mark E. & Mary A. Davis Foundation
The Saint Paul Foundation
Ulteig
Veena Lakkundi

\$500 - \$999

Academy of Whole Learning
Blake and Kristen Nelson
Bremer Bank*
Lynn Farmer
Mary and Charles Killian

Randall and Rachel Kroll
Douglas and Laura Jaeger
Minnesota Field Trip Library
National Geographic
Platinum Bank
Wyayn Rasmussen
Kelly Regan
Risen Christ School
Saint Thomas Academy
St. Croix Lutheran Academy
St. Mary's Council No. 3134

\$100 - \$499

Roger D Ahrenholz
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Como Planetarium
Cotter High School
Dave and Denise Faust
David E. Feinberg
Ellie Ghostly

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Robert W Jones
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Tom and Patti Keyes
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Lisa and Chris Vosbeek
The Works Museum

Under \$100

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Frances Murnane
Drs. Gene and Carrie Pfeifer
Dr. Robert H. Rubey
Kari Staples

* Denotes donors who have supported MISF for 10 or more years.

BE INDEPENDENT, NOT ALONE.



"I am a raving fan of MISF. MISF has built a consortium of private schools that cross denominational boundaries that are both religious and non-religious. You have this community of schools that are pooling resources, sharing ideas, and learning from one another which is such a unique model. They are partnering with us to develop the team members we need to fulfill our mission. That is incredibly valuable."

- Brian Sullivan – Head of School – Maranatha Christian Academy – Brooklyn Park, MN

"The School Leadership Conference is an annual highlight for me, and a major priority in my own professional growth planning. It is one of the most important things I do each year, for reasons ranging from self-care to networking."

**- Jason Wenschlag,
Principal Upper School
Minnehaha Academy,
Minneapolis, MN**



"Year after year, I have found curriculum and projects at this conference that I have been excited and able to add into my classroom for the coming year. This conference, and its presenters, gave me the confidence to apply for MISF STEM grants. These grants have completely transformed how we think about technology, science and that addition of engineering to our school's offerings to students."

- Kelly Lynn Stanton-Nutt, Art and STEM Specialist, St. Dominic School, Northfield, MN

"The MISF STEM grant has enabled New Ulm Area Catholic Schools to start a VEX Robotics program in our school. In two years we have taken four teams to state, and one team to World competition. What could be better?"



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www.misf.org



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