



October 2022 Newsletter

Dear Friends of Private and Independent Education:

The [2022 School Leadership Conference](#) is in the books. A very special thank you to the leaders, presenters and generous sponsors who came together for connection, collaboration and collective action. This gathering is truly a unique experience and remind us that leadership for private and independent schools is in good hands. Materials from the conference can be found in the members only areas of our website. Mark your calendar for September 25-27, 2023 for next year's conference – you can't say we didn't give you advance notice 😊!

The [deadline to apply for EANS III](#) has been extended through October 15. We appreciate the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) being open to extending the deadline after MINNDEPENDENT requested an extension. As clarification, the following conditions apply to the EANS III funding.

1. Schools are eligible for this round of EANS funding even if they had applied for and received a PPP loan in the past.
2. Schools that received EANS I funding are also eligible for this round. Schools that received funding from EANS II are **not** eligible for this round of funding.
3. These funds are **not** reimbursable and will be administered through ClassWallet.

If you have questions about EANS funding, [email Anita Tayson](#), MN Department of Education EANS Program Manager.

Membership renewal is coming to a close, and final reminder invoices will be sent this week. Membership opens up a suite of programs, services and benefits to you and your school community, including access to professional development, STEM grants, technical assistance in navigating issues with your pupil aids and title funds. Interested in joining MINNDEPENDENT, [reach out to me](#) and let's have a conversation.

Thank you for your commitment to private and independent education in Minnesota.

We've moved

5200 Willson Road
Suite 310
Edina, MN 55424

MINNDEPENDENT Member Network

[READ MORE](#)

MINNDEPENDENT Jobs Board

Member schools can post job listings for free.

[READ MORE](#)

[Hats & Mittens](#) is a 26-year-old all volunteer Minnesota non-profit. Their curriculum, focused on volunteering and philanthropy for students of all ages, is being offered free of charge to schools, churches, and youth organizations. To learn more and find out **how you can use this in your school**, [Click here](#).

SHARE THE LINK!

Be sure your school's faculty and staff have subscribed to our newsletter!

Tim Benz

Tim Benz, President

Important information about STEM grants, Professional Development sessions, advocacy, conferences and more. [CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE](#)

This month's MINNDEPENDENT Newsletter is sponsored by



Report Card Comments

Let's face it, writing report card comments can be a chore. So to make it easier, check out one of our most popular blog posts for a few helpful dos and don'ts.

[Read more here.](#)

Steve Lockwood | Sales Executive
M: 949-682-7019
E: steve@gradelink.com

www.gradelink.com



Professional Development Webinar

Teacher Turnover: Why It Matters and What We Can Do About It *Thursday, November 3 (11:00 am - 12:30 pm)*

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

Retention of teachers is a notable problem, often considered one of the greatest educational concerns of this time. This session will examine how educational leaders

can support teachers and curb teacher attrition. Drs. Ryan Siegle and Becky Evers-Gerdes will address: Why does teacher retention matter? What are ways to provide needed support to educators? and How can you build your leadership skills to develop collective efficacy schoolwide? This webinar will offer practical tools and suggestions that will enhance what you are already doing and recharge your efforts toward making a long-lasting impact on those you serve.



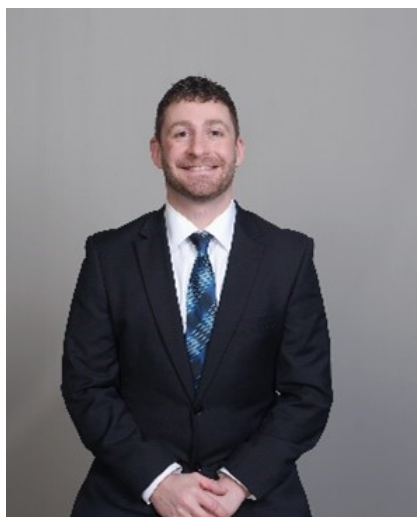
Dr. Becky Gerdes

Dr. Becky Gerdes is currently serving in a leadership role with the Minnesota Department of Education. Her experiences include serving as an educator and administrator in the elementary, middle school, and high school settings, including schools that have been designated as needing to make an improvement by the Minnesota Department of Education. Additional titles include K-12 Curriculum Director, Staff Development Coordinator, Special Education Coordinator, and Title Program Director. At the undergraduate and graduate level, Becky has served as a Course Developer and Designer for Bethel University and an adjunct faculty member for Minnesota State University, Bethel University, and

Concordia University in the areas of leadership, research, and K-12 education and special education. Using ongoing student data and culturally responsive teaching, she focuses on social-emotional learning as equally important as academics and strong parent and community partnerships.

Becky has led teams and departments through unpacking standards, aligning them to coursework, and ensuring that formative and summative assessments are analyzed. Becky has also been active in co-presenting teacher retention solutions to professional organizations and independent school districts with the topic titled *Teacher Turnover: Why It Matters and What We Can Do About It*.

Becky earned her Doctoral degree in Education Administration from Bethel University and holds a Specialist and Master of Education Administration degree from Minnesota State University, Mankato along with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Southwest State University, Marshall.



Dr. Ryan Siegle

Dr. Ryan Siegle currently serves as an assistant principal at East Rapids Elementary for Independent School District 318 in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. He is passionate about transforming school and classroom cultures and believes in the need for supporting both the whole child and the whole teacher. His focus areas of research include leadership factors influencing the retention of teachers, servant leadership, trust, school culture, and school climate.

Ryan has been highly involved in teacher retention and mentorship at the school, district, and state levels. He has experience working with both teachers and educational leaders on the topic of teacher retention, support, and building teacher self-efficacy. Ryan has most recently provided formal presentations and training for school districts and professional organizations examining the impact of teacher turnover and how leaders can address this issue within their schools. He has also helped influence state level policy decisions, focusing specifically on best practice teaching induction and mentoring.

Ryan holds a Doctoral degree in Education Administration from Bethel University in

St. Paul, Minnesota. He has also earned a Masters of Curriculum and Instruction from St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota, and a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Members: FREE

- [CLICK HERE](#) to see if your school is a MINNDEPENDENT member

Nonmembers: \$75 per session

- Check with your LEA about using Title funds for fees.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

STEM SCOOP



MINNDEPENDENT is excited to announce a partnership with Girls Who Code!

Girls Who Code is on a mission to close the gender gap in technology and to change the image of what a programmer looks like and does. When you start a

free Girls Who Code Club and enroll 3 or more members, you'll be eligible to receive up to \$300 to purchase materials and supplies for your Club. There's no obligation, and every Club gets access to 120+ hours of plug-and-play programming with CSTA standards-aligned coding lessons. **Indicate that you are a member of MINNDEPENDENT on the Clubs application**, and you'll unlock additional support, access to special events, and exclusive opportunities for swag. No coding experience is required!

Want to learn more? Check out these [live and on-demand webinars](#) from the Girls Who Code team and [sign up here!](#)

STEM Curriculum and Learning Resources

Explore the amazing variety of Minnesota STEM learning and organizations, including museums, nature centers, zoos, aquariums, wildlife centers, non-profits, university laboratories, government programs, and research resources.



MINNESOTA
ACADEMY
OF SCIENCE

[EXPLORE RESOURCES](#)

MnDOT has many transportation-related activities and offerings for you to explore. Students and families can download activities and teachers can connect with MnDOT ambassadors for virtual classroom presentations or in-person classroom activities. MnDOT is dedicated to providing high quality activities and initiatives to help promote science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in schools across Minnesota.

[Explore STEM K-12 Activities](#)

STEM



MINNESOTA STATE

Engineering Center of Excellence

The Minnesota State Center of Engineering Excellence facilitates relationships by engaging academic institutions with industry and provide educational outreach by inspiring interest

in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). [Explore Curriculum, Activities and Resources.](#)

Siemens CTE Curriculum

SIEMENS

- Engineering Design
- Manufacturing and Automation
- Mechatronics and the Internet of Things

The secondary Siemens engineering curriculum prepares students for the next industrial revolution, Industry 4.0. It is a project/problem-based learning curriculum that teaches the fundamentals of engineering design and manufacturing and is FREE. Each project allows student teams to develop distinctive solutions to the same problem, which happens in the real world. You can see below that the teacher training is also FREE along with the enabling technologies, e.g. CAD, CAM, and CAE software. Siemens will also pay for Solid Edge Certification I & II assessments for your students.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Bring the World to Your Classroom

TPT and PBS have curated FREE, standards-aligned videos, interactives, lesson plans, and more for teachers like you. The STEM Education Resource

Center is a site that provides nearly 4,000 resources of STEM for PreK-5 and 6-12. The website is also targeted at teachers, who have access to self-paced, free modules on how to teach global climate change to students in middle school and high school. [Explore Classroom Resources](#)

Social Emotional Learning CEUs from CARE Counseling

CARE Counseling, in collaboration with MINNDEPENDENT, is thrilled to announce continuing education - ten online modules totaling six CEUs - that is approved by the Minnesota Board of School Administrators. [Read more here.](#)

National Blue Ribbon Schools *40 Years of Excellence*

The US Department of Education has released the 2023 National Blue Ribbon Schools application and materials for the new award cohort.

All of the materials needed to apply, as well as a comprehensive list of Frequently Asked Questions, can be found on CAPE's website under the [Blue Ribbon Schools Banner](#).

Additional information can be found on the [US Department of Education website](#).

Important Dates

Thursday, November 3, 2022:

Professional Development Webinar: Teacher Turnover

Monday, November 7, 2022:

STEM Grant Program details announced

Tuesday, January 10, 2023 (6:00 pm deadline):

Due date for STEM Grant Letters of Interest

Tuesday, February 14, 2023 (6:00 pm deadline):

Due date for STEM Grant applications for project implementation during the 2023-2024 school year

Sunday, April 30, 2023:

*Private and Independent Education Awards
Mendakota Country Club*

August, 2023, Date TBA:

STEM Education Conference

September 25-27, 2023:

School Leadership Conference, Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge

A TRUSTED PARTNER
For Private & Independent Schools

MINNDEPENDENT (Formerly MISF) | 5200 Willson Road, Suite 310, Edina, MN 55424

[Unsubscribe tbenz@minndependent.org](mailto:tbenz@minndependent.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by tbenz@minndependent.org in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!