

Greetings MSNA Members:

The Executive Board has been working on many items that will benefit you, our MSNA members.

We have hired a replacement for retiring Executive Director Sharon Maus. Starting in January 2022, **Margaret Winchell** of [Fusion Learning Partners](#) will be joining our organization as Executive Director. Fusion is an association management company based out of St. Paul with experience in managing all aspects of associations. The MSNA Executive Board approved unanimously to collaborate with Fusion Learning Partners!

Margaret has over 20 years' experience in association management, providing executive level leadership to both national and international clients. She also has more than 30 years' experience in educational event management for groups of 150 – 2500. Margaret's experience spans from committee development and management to board operations and strategic planning. She has proven success in the development of policies and procedures, formation of leadership training guidelines and increasing financial stability and revenue.



Sharon and Margaret are working together now on the transition. Read Margaret's message to MSNA members in the December newsletter.

Thank you to Task Force members Jo Lange, Allison Bradford, Julie Powers, Vickie Speltz, Cheryl Pick and Michele Hawkinson for your hard work to fill this important position.

Board Retreat

The Executive Board came together in late October for a two-day retreat. The board worked with Big River Group's Bruce Miles, who helped guide the development and strong focus on MSNA goals and how to accomplish them in the next 3 years. Once the strategic plan is complete, it will be shared with members posted on the website.

We also worked through many other items that needed to be accomplished. MSNA board chairs will be working with Ad Hoc committees to help collaborate on education, training, advocacy and other areas to help members meet the needs of today's workforce.

Another big item on the retreat agenda was the 2022 MSNA budget and making sure we can start the recovery from the pandemic. Thank you to Secretary/Treasurer Vickie Speltz who has led our association through the COVID pandemic and helped MSNA be fiscally responsible through many cost cutting measures, including eliminating travel costs by having MSNA meetings via Zoom.

For 2022, the board voted to eliminate covering the cost of attendance for the president and president-elect at SNA's Annual National Conference (ANC), which will be held July 10-12, 2022, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL.

The board has approved an increase to the **MSNA state memberships by \$1.50**. This increase will take effect in **February of 2022**. Please note, MSNA gets only the state membership fees from SNA and not the full amount of membership. These changes are to make sure the association can keep the level of service for the future years.

As the discussion continues, all aspects of the budget will be reviewed.

MSNA Talent Search is underway!

The Leadership Development Committee will be looking for talented members to be on the executive board for 2022-2023. If you get a call, please think about running for office. The open positions will be Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and one position for the Leadership Development Committee.

We are looking for members to help plan the 2022 MSNA Annual Conference, held in St. Cloud at the River's Edge Convention Center, **August 7-10, 2022**. If you are interested in volunteering for this committee, please contact President-Elect Cheryl Pick, cpick@apps.isd51.org or Conference Chair Dale Winham, DAWINHAM@rochesterschools.org

If interested in volunteering for MSNA in some way, I encourage you to go to [Committee Member Information](#) located at the **About MSNA Tab** on our website. We will be updating this site so you will be able to submit your name and let us know what you are ready to volunteer for!

Hope you have a wonderful holiday season and a relaxing school break. I'm always available to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

--Carrie

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