



Missouri
School Counselor
Association

MSCA Monday Memo: October 20, 2025

Happy Monday! See below for the MSCA Monday Memo. Please continue to watch MSCA's social media feeds on [Facebook](#) and Instagram for any updates. To submit content for the Monday Memo, please email Jill Hancock at jill@c2cpro.solutions.

MSCA NEWS & UPDATES

Fall Conference: Make plans to join us for the 2025 MSCA Fall Conference, which will be held at the Tan-Tar-A Conference Center in Osage Beach on November 2-4. More information on the Conference, including registration, workshop sessions, keynote speakers, conference preview, lodging, and more, may be found at [2025 Fall Conference — Missouri School Counselor Association](#).
There's still plenty of time to register!

Board of Director Nominations

Are you interested in making a difference in your profession? Consider running for a position on MSCA's Board of Directors! During this election process, three individuals will be elected by their peers to serve a 3-year term beginning on October 1, 2026. APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 15, 2025, To submit your application for a director position, please complete the [Google Form](#).

Award Winners Announced!

Congratulations to our Missouri School Counselor of the Year and all of our finalists!

- Molly Beuke (Boy-Key), Missouri School Counselor of the Year, Lee's Summit R7 School District
- Stacy Creech, Finalist, Kelso C-7 School District
- Stacey O'Connell, Finalist, Lee's Summit R7 School District
- Emma Sherrell, Finalist, Springfield Public Schools
- Amy Walker, Finalist, Polo RVII School District

Congratulations to the following individuals who have made major contributions to the counseling profession as counselor directors/supervisors and administrator/counselor advocates and will be recognized as our 2025 award winners.

- Administrator of the Year: Natalie Arnold, St. Joseph School District
- Director of the Year: Dr. Rob Fisher, Liberty Public Schools
- Advocate of the Year: Robyn Holmes, Belton School District

Congratulations to the following schools who have earned NRM recognition!

- Clever EleMiddle School, Clever R-5 School District– School Counselors: Brittany Randall, DaLynn Twigg & Lindsey Casey
- Hallsville Middle School, Hallsville R-IV School District – School Counselor: Kayla Lewis
- Lee’s Summit High School, Lee’s Summit R-7 School District – School Counselor: Stacey O’Connell
- Mesnier Primary School, Affton School District – School Counselors: Megan Smith & Hannah Dreas
- Pittman Elementary School, Springfield Public Schools – School Counselor: Crystal Elliott

We look forward to celebrating these individuals during the Professional Recognition event scheduled for Saturday, November 1 - [make plans to join us](#) in recognizing these individuals for their well-deserved recognition. [Registration is required.](#)

MSCA Board of Directors’ Transition

On October 1, the MSCA Board of Directors transitioned to new leadership. A heartfelt THANK YOU to our outgoing MSCA Board Members — Becky Chambers Arway, Carey Hughes, and Tosha Todd. All 3 concluded their board terms on September 30, 2025.

Welcome to our newest board members, including Sarah Bodi, Christina Gawedzinski and Dr. Alison Roffers who officially started their terms on October 1, 2025. Olivia Carter will serve as the Board Chair for 2025-2026 and Cindy Bentley as the Assistant Chair. More information on our current Board of Directors may be found by [clicking here.](#)

Affinity Groups - [Click here](#) for details for 2025-2026

Affinity Groups are small communities of members who share a similar area of interest or identity. Affinity Group members enjoy opportunities to discuss shared challenges, brainstorm solutions, identify valuable resources and network with like-minded peers. Each group is formed based on grassroots interest and needs and offers opportunities for meaningful conversations in safe spaces. Affinity Groups are self-directed and led by members - these discussions are open to all MSCA members.

- [Join us on October 21 at 4:00 p.m. for the BIPOC Affinity Group](#)

Board of Director Meetings - [Click here](#) for September Meeting Updates!

As a reminder, approved minutes from our MSCA Board of Directors’ meetings may be found online by [clicking here.](#) Please note that member login is required. For a full update from the latest board meeting held in September 2025, [click here.](#)

2026 Advocacy Day

Make plans to join us for the 2026 Advocacy Day scheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2026. [Click here](#) for Save the Date information.

MSCA Focus Groups

Want to impact MSCA's future? Have ideas of how MSCA can better serve you? Ready to share your voice and shape what's next? Sign up to join a MSCA focus group! The MSCA Member Linkage Committee wants to invite members to conversations where you can share your ideas on how MSCA can best meet your needs. The feedback gathered will be shared with the MSCA Board of Directors to guide future programming. [Click here to sign up today.](#)

School Counseling Ethics Questions

Have a legal or ethical question or challenge? Submit your question via this [Google Form](#) - questions will be shared with members of the MSCA Ethics Committee for feedback.

Got Questions?

MSCA members are encouraged to reach out to the MSCA office for any questions at (573) 635-9109 or msca@c2cpro.solutions. Additionally, members may reach out directly to the MSCA Board of Directors at board@moschoolcounselor.org.

NEWS FROM MSCA'S PARTNERS

MSCA continues to share updates from related organizations and partners as outlined below. Organizations are encouraged to submit updates to Jill Hancock at jill@c2cpro.solutions for inclusion within the Monday Memo.

Upcoming Events of Interest

- The next round of EmpowerED Financial Literacy sessions are scheduled for the remainder of the year. [Click here for more information.](#)
- Missouri School Boards Association (MSBA) AI in Education Symposium on October 22, 2025- [click here](#) for more information. The AI Toolkit may be viewed by [clicking here](#).
- The Scholarship Foundation offers workshops and one-on-one assistance to clarify the processes for securing financial aid for postsecondary education. Free workshops are led by Foundation Student Advisors throughout the year. All workshops are free and open to the public. [Click here for more information.](#)
- Attend the Show-Me Echo session on 'Child Trafficking Awareness' scheduled for November 11 from 12-1 pm. [Click here for more information.](#)
- Join the [Missouri College & Career Attainment Network \(MOCAN\)](#) for a series of FREE workshops designed to empower your work with students. [Register now and reserve your spot!](#)
- The Early Awareness Committee for [Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel \(MASFAP\)](#) is offering free workshops to learn more about financial aid. These workshops are geared toward high school counselors and college access professionals. Register for workshops at www.masfap.org/workshops.

Other News & Information

- School mental health teams are invited to join staff from the School-Based Mental Health and School Counseling & Student Wellness sections to learn more about the *Missouri Framework for School-Based Mental Health* (SBMH Framework). Both morning and

afternoon session options will be held around the state in October and November in addition to virtual options in December. Visit the [DESE Mental Health Resources for School Staff and Students page](#) to learn more about the framework and to register for a session.

- Check out this opportunity from the MSU Pathways for Paras program on the “Grow Your Own” option for high school students. <https://share.descript.com/view/am4jn1DaPyw>
- The Missouri Suicide Prevention Network’s Suicide Prevention in Schools Committee is pleased to share that the 2025 edition of the [Suicide Prevention & 988 Guide for Missouri Schools](#) is now complete and available for use.
- The Missouri Suicide Prevention Network (SPN) is seeking applicants for its new Youth Advisory Board (YAB) - [click here for more information](#). [Click here to submit interest](#).
- The Updated ICAP is available now - [Click here for the updated Individual Career and Academic Plan \(ICAP\) template](#). Updates include terminology aligned to the recently updated Advance CTE Cluster Framework, Google Form option, and formatting. The DESE ICAP template is in compliance with Missouri State Statute Section 167.903 and the CTE Certificate. For more information regarding ICAP and the Career Clusters Framework, please visit the DESE School Counseling website [here](#). Coming soon – updated Programs of Study.
- Reminder to [sign up to host your Apply Missouri, FAFSA Frenzy, and Decision Day Events through Journey to College](#). Being a site coordinator also unlocks free promotional items for your events, as well as [an updated resource manual](#) to help you plan.