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## MN Guild October Newsletter Important Updates

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Minnesota Guild of Public  
Charter Schools  
OCTOBER 2023  
NEWSLETTER

Single-purpose authorizer of  
publicchartered schools in Minnesota

[www.guildschools.org](http://www.guildschools.org)

**MINNESOTA**  
**GUILD**  
*Authorizing*  
INNOVATIVE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



### Director Update:

I hope this message finds you well. I know for sure it finds you very busy so I shall be brief! When we met on August 9th at the Humanities Center the **November 1st Annual Report due date** (to the Guild for feedback) felt so far off. Now MEA week is just around the corner, so I wanted to offer a reminder as October shifts into full autumn gear. We appreciate you getting us these reports so we can offer feedback before the MDE deadlines later in the year. As we discussed, this practice will really help streamline the charter renewal process moving forward to the benefit of all.

Thank you as always for all you do. With appreciation and gratitude, --Jim

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## ***Google Classroom Submission Tips by Buddy Ferrari***

### **Adding Guild Submission Dates to Your Main Google Calendar**



Google Classroom

If you use Google Calendar for your normal day-to-day workflow, you may wish to add the Guild submission due dates calendar to your main Google Calendar so you can view them without being logged into your [guildschools.org](https://guildschools.org) Google account. We are able to “share” the submissions calendar from your [guildschools.org](https://guildschools.org) account to your primary account. This will make the calendar appear under “other calendars” on the left sidebar of your Google Calendar screen, and checking/unchecking that box will cause those submission dates to appear/disappear from your calendar screen.

If you would like us to connect your submissions calendar to your main/school Google account, please email [buddy.ferrari@guildschools.org](mailto:buddy.ferrari@guildschools.org) and list the address of the account(s) you would like the calendar to be added to.



We are going to start a monthly Acronym Decoder section in our newsletter to help decode those acronym's not everyone is familiar with on a daily basis.

PELSB = Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

The PELSB is responsible for licensing teachers and overseeing teacher preparation programs in Minnesota. The board ensures that all Minnesota students have high-quality educators in their schools. It also collects employment, licensure and assignment data from all school district





Congratulations to New Heights School! We are proud to share your wonderful accomplishment of being recognized for your 30 Year Milestone award.



## Minnesota Charter News

*Unleashing Education from Convention*

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

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### **IMPORTANT DATES**

FY 2024 Concurrent Enrollment Aid Application – Due October 30

Annual Report feedback deadline - Due November 1

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### **MN Guild Partners & Resources**

Leading the way to excellence

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### **Reminder: 2023 School Behavioral Health Conference Registration**

The Minnesota School Behavioral Health Conference is in its seventh year, bringing together collaborating partners and providers to build a school behavioral health framework of community, practice and support. Attendees include schools, community mental health providers, advocates, consumers, policy makers, Tribal Nations, parents/caregivers and state government. The conference provides opportunities to network and learn about the latest developments and best practices related to supporting students with behavioral health needs, their families and the broader school community.

This year's theme is **Impact through Innovation and Empowerment**. This conference seeks to offer attendees purposeful tools and techniques to implement and produce a positive impact on behavioral health and mental well-being. [Register for the 2023 School Behavioral Health Conference November 1-3, 2023](#)

### **Reminder: New Active Transportation Safety Training Requirement**

The 2023 [Active Transportation Safety Training requirement](#) is effective August 1. All students in public schools must receive age-appropriate education related to safe walking and bicycling during the first few weeks of school. This legislation is similar to the law that requires students to receive bus safety education at the beginning of each school year. The Minnesota Department of Transportation is providing all the resources necessary for schools to be able to meet this new requirement. Visit the [Safe Routes to School](#) webpage for more information.

### **Reminder: Minnesota Youth Water Safety – State Fiscal Year (SFY) 24**

A Youth Water Safety grant opportunity is available to Minnesota nonprofit organizations and city and county parks and recreation programs providing swimming lessons to youth. These state funds are available primarily for the purpose of providing low-income and at-risk children with scholarships for swimming lessons based on nationally recognized water safety curricula. Up to 15% of the grant funds may also be used to hire water safety instructors or lifeguards, or to train water safety instructors or lifeguards in nationally recognized water safety practices and instruction. The total funding available is \$250,000 for this fiscal year only (grant ends June 30, 2024). The minimum award is \$10,000 and the maximum award is \$24,000. Completed applications are **due October 20, 2023**. Information and applications can be found on the [Minnesota Department of Education Grants](#) webpage for the Minnesota Youth Water Safety grant.

### **Reminder: FY 2024 Concurrent Enrollment Aid Application – Due October 30**

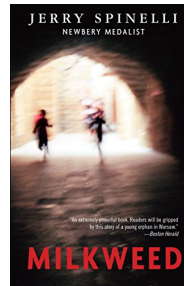
Districts and charter schools offering concurrent enrollment courses in partnership with eligible institutions during the 2023-24 school year are eligible for aid reimbursements per student per course.

- Districts/charters whose partnering institution(s) **are not** [National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships \(NACEP\)-Accredited Postsecondary Institutions](#)

for the 2023-24 School Year, must complete the [Concurrent Enrollment Aid Application 2023-24](#) in order to receive concurrent enrollment aid. Completed applications and required documentation must be submitted to MDE **no later than October 30, 2023** for any concurrent courses during the 2023-24 school year.

- District/charters partnered with one of the [NACEP-accredited institutions on this list](#) do not need to complete an application to receive concurrent enrollment aid.

*milkweed*



Dear Educators:

We have a wonderful opportunity for you to join the [Milkweed Holocaust Education Project](#). We have created a curriculum to go along with Jerry Spinelli's young adult novel, "Milkweed." The lesson plans will help students analyze the text, examine character perspectives while exploring empathy. The curriculum also offers opportunity for activism and a powerful Readers' Theater play as students take on roles of actual upstanders in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

Thanks to generous donors, this program is FREE for you! We can supply you with 24 books and the curriculum via google docs. If you are interested please fill out this [questionnaire](#)! If you would like to learn more or meet with me as you plan your curriculum please reach out: [Pondie@milkweedthemovie.com](mailto:Pondie@milkweedthemovie.com) THANK YOU!

Facilities represent a significant part of a charter school's budget. As a result, effective board members need to stay informed on their school's facilities and related costs as well as prepare for future development or renovations. Join Institute President & CEO, Jim Goenner, Ph.D., as he talks with facilities financing expert Alan Washington, President & CEO, of the Charter Schools Development Corporation, about how board members can become well informed on this important and strategic budgeting area.

Join this free webinar for boards and those who support them.

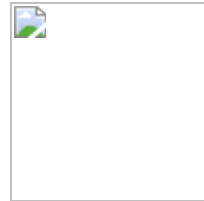
**October 19th 4-5:00 PM ED** [Register Today](#)

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### **Minnesota Social Studies Standards: Revising With an Equity Lens**

Minnesota is currently reviewing its K-12 Social Studies Academic Standards—a once in a decade opportunity to scrutinize and revise what students learn in social studies. EE's policy director Danyika Leonard serves on the 38-person review committee along with other parents, educators, and community leaders.



We believe that social studies standards must be **inclusive of more lenses, narratives, and histories**—and honest about both the achievements and atrocities that mark our nation's story. In other words: the standards must be rooted in equity.

Only then can all **students find relevance in what they're learning**, feel recognized for who they are and what they bring to their community, participate in an increasingly globalized world, and develop a patriotic commitment to advancing the **American promises of liberty and justice**.

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### **CHARTER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR MEETINGS | NOV. 7-9**

Our fall Charter School Administrator Meetings will take place **Tuesday, November 7th through Thursday, November 9th**. These meetings are for any charter school administrator to attend. You can click the links below to register for your preferred meeting date and location:

- [Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> – Metro](#)
  - [Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> – Duluth](#)
  - [Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> – Rochester](#)
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### [On-Demand Webinar](#)

Working with students with diverse academic, social, and emotional needs requires specialized knowledge and can be emotionally demanding, so hiring the right person is essential. Special education teachers also manage IEPs, establish ongoing relationships with specialists, and communicate with families, all of which require the right support.

Tricia Blum joined us to answer questions about back-to-school operations. You can watch the [recording or read the transcript here](#), but if you only have time for this week's top 3 tips, here they are:

To attract and retain special education teachers, schools can show they are able to provide what these teachers need to thrive in their roles.

Join this webinar with expert Ingrid Wulczyn of Project IDEA to improve your school's special education teacher recruitment, hiring process, and ability to provide needed, ongoing support.

1. Update your school's COVID-19 policies and procedures. Ensure you have sufficient sanitation supplies, masks, and plans to address potential outbreaks.
2. Solidify transportation logistics, including bus routes and safety measures. Also, assess your staffing needs, especially if unexpected challenges arise, such as special education requirements or unexpected student enrollment.
3. Consider hiring or ensuring you have a competent financial team member who understands the unique funding challenges faced by charter schools.

[Tune in to this week's conversation](#) with Ryan Eldridge. We will be live to answer all your questions on how to find the forever home for your school.

See you on YouTube at 12 PM CT — [Add it to your calendar here!](#)

"If you want  
to go fast  
go alone.  
If you want  
to go far  
go together."  
-African Proverb



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