

# This Spring & Summer MASMS is offering many educational opportunities.

*Educational and business members are invited to attend these events!*

## March Chapter Meetings | March 2023

*See details on page 7.*

## Day on the Hill | March 22, 2023 | State Capitol in St. Paul

*See details on page 8.*

## Leadership Training at April Meetings | All Chapters

*See details on page 11.*

## Boiler Training & Exams | May 2, 2023 | Marshall Minnesota

*See details on page 13.*

## Tour of MSP International Airport | May 9, 2023

*See details on page 14.*

## Custodial Grounds Maintenance Days | June 2023

*See details on page 15.*

## Boot Camp | July 19th & 20th, 2023

*See details on page 16.*

### Good Reasons to Attend In-Person Events

#### “Sharpen the Saw”

The idea is that you sometimes have to take a break from “work” to sharpen your skills. A dull axe won’t cut a tree nearly as effectively as a sharp one.

#### Meet Experts Face to Face

Sometimes you need to be face to face to make a connection with another that leads to solving problems. New tips and new tactics.

#### Networking Opportunities

There is no substitution for meeting someone face to face. Make new connections & friends.

#### New Tools

Find out about new products that you have not seen yet.

#### Learning in a New Space

A different location allows for a fresh perspective, and leads to fresh thinking and new ideas.

#### Energy of Like Minded Individuals

There is nothing like being in a room with people who do the same thing you do!

#### Have Fun

Not sure this is the most important reason, but I did not want to leave it off the list!



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**Message from  
the Board**



**Scott Kaminski**  
State  
President Elect

Another year, another Nebraska hunting trip... so put aside 45 minutes to get through this story! 😊

I won't tell you about the drive out there or the way back, but I'll talk about the hunt and what I learned this year.

We started off hunting a new public piece than last year and followed a lot of fresh sign, that led to seeing a few White Tails, but no Mule Deer (which we were all after). So after hiking and sitting for the first day, we made the decision to hunt the "Sandhills" the next day, where we saw a bunch of Muley's last year, but could never close the distance.

Learning what we did from the prior year, we got out our OnX maps and marked locations where we were all going to go and a rendezvous point to meet at dark. I was the first one dropped off and set off on my way. Immediately, I saw tracks and rubs, so I stayed on course to where I assumed they would be. A half hour into my walk, I spotted 4 Mule Deer Doe up on the top of a hill that I was downwind from. I stopped and planned a route to get behind them and get myself set up for a shot. As I successfully made my way around the hill and within range of them, I thought to myself..."this is too easy. If I saw 4 mule deer within the first half hour, I bet I would see a bunch the rest of the day." WELL, I WAS WRONG.

On our OnX app, we set a trail to mark our paths. After passing on those 4 doe, I spent the rest of the day and 14.5 more miles walking searching for any sign of life out there (FYI... I am in no shape to walk 14.5 miles in a week, let alone 1 day). I honestly got to the point where I looked up to the sky and said..."God, I'm sorry for not taking what was given to me. Please let me see something before the day is over." I promise you 5 steps later, I busted out a Jackrabbit that was nestled in the only bush in the 14.5 miles I walked. That's when I thought to myself..."ok, I deserve that."

Now I am at the point where I just want to get close enough to the road so I have a shorter walk in the dark for when we meet at the truck. So, I checked my map and plotted a path to get to some trees and some ponds to just sit for the rest of the day until I walked back to the truck. On the way there, I saw a fox a couple miles away and that was it. At this point, I was content with just getting back to the truck and calling it a hunt. As I posted up on top of a hill in the trees and an hour left of shooting time, I looked over my shoulder and spotted 8 Mule Deer a mile away, walking towards me. I debated whether or not to waste the energy to attempt to get close enough, but cutting them off was on the way to the truck, so I decided to go for it. Plotting my course to where I thought they would pop up, I got about halfway there and saw 4 of them down in a bowl that the hills around it created. The other 4 were up on top of the hill 300 yards away. I dropped my back and everything at the bottom of the hill, took my Muzzleloader and started to army crawl through the snow and up the hill. I got to a point where I was towards the top and could see the deer on top of the other hill, but the tall grass was in the way of the scope and I didn't have a good shot. The deer were on to me at this time, as they could see the grass moving, but still didn't know what I was. I needed something to turn their heads, so I could work my way up. Again... I looked up to the skies and said..."come on, help me out on this."

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Continued on Page 3



## Message from the Board



**Scott Kaminski**  
State  
President Elect

Continued from Page 2..... 😊

A few seconds later (I'm serious), a pack of coyotes started yipping, which caused the deer on top of the hill to turn their heads. I immediately crawled up to the peak as fast as I could and got to a spot where I could take a shot. With my range finder in my pack, I lined up my scope to take the one in the front. Just before I pulled the trigger, that doe took off. In about a half a second, I moved to the one behind it, barely made it out through the scope, and pulled the trigger.

Smoke flew out and I see the deer go up and fall back towards the bowl, while all the other deer took off! I called the group and told them to head back to the truck and come my way. I got up and ran to the spot the deer were at when I shot, and found the deer laying 20 yards from where it was when I pulled the trigger.

Relieved that I was able to harvest my first Mule Deer, I couldn't help but re-live the hunt at that moment. One thing that I thought about was if I took a shot at those doe I saw first, I wouldn't have gone through the grind the rest of the day presented to me. It made me believe that everything happens for a reason and I truly believe the right people are put into places and situations to remind them to never settle and push yourself. Your body will tell you to give up, your mind will start to question if what you are doing is worth it, but having faith and the mindset to push through, will eventually pay off.

I believe this more than ever now and it came from an event such as this one. I appreciate the struggles I go through, not only in my work, but in life. It's what makes all of us stronger than we even know. So, if you made it this far in the newsletter, believe in what you are doing and never settle. Those that need us (in work and at home), lean on us to push them and see the good in all situations. Keep on leading with a purpose and know the struggles we go through, are put in front of those that can handle it.

(I hope you saved 2 pages again for me, Ruth.) 😊  
I appreciate you all and appreciate the relationships, guidance and education MASMS has given me!  
See you all soon! Think Spring!

Regards, Scott Kaminski

## MASMS is accepting articles for the MASMS 2023 Newsletters.

We ask that articles submitted be generic in nature – they can relate to products you provide, but not specific to brands. Any mention of specific companies or brands will be removed before use. Articles that pertain to specific issues in schools would be good.

If the article is used, you and you company will receive the by-line on the article.

Articles should not be more than one page in length (if possible). Pictures are great.

Please try not to submit PDF files, as they need to be converted, and that does not always work well!

Please contact the MASMS Office with questions!

## The future of sports facilities is here.



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## Vendor Corner

### Lasting Lessons from "The Empire Builder" – Part 2



Mike Remington, Inspec  
MASMS Vendor Rep

In last month's article I highlighted James J. Hill's humble beginnings and how his jobs and skills he developed early in his career helped him develop a strong understanding of the shipping industry, networking, and managing a business. This month's article highlights how he got into the railroad industry and how those early experiences and skills helped him become one of the most powerful railroad tycoons in the United States:

**Seizing Opportunities / Doing it Right:** During the Panic of 1873 a lot of railroads, including the St Paul and Pacific Railroad (StP&P) struggled and went bankrupt. Hill researched the StP&P for three years and had the idea that trains would allow settlers heading west to get to the Red River Valley a few days or weeks earlier than if they traveled by trail or boat and he had the insight to realize that settlers arriving in February could get to their new lands earlier in the year instead of waiting until April when the rivers were free of ice. Those extra weeks would help those settlers get their new crops planted at the proper time in the spring, versus arriving a different way and losing that entire first planting season.

Seeing this huge opportunity, Hill teamed up with some other businessmen he had created relationships with in past business dealings and got the backing to buy the StP&P Railroad. Hill's first goal was to expand and upgrade it.

There were a lot of railroad companies quickly expanding west into unsettled territories, and they were usually in a huge hurry to build new track in order to earn their government subsidies and they wanted more loans and land grants which were often based on the number of miles of new track built. Hill, on the other hand, wanted to do it right, saying "What we want is the best possible line, shortest distance, lowest grades, and least curvature we can build." When he was looking for the best path for one of his new tracks to take, he went out on horseback and scouted the proposed routes personally. Hill built his railroad, now called the Great Northern Railway, north of the competing Northern Pacific line which had reached the West Coast over much more difficult terrain with more bridges, steeper grades, and tunnels. The key to Hill's new route was the use of the previously unmapped Marias Pass through the mountains. While this pass had been described by Lewis and Clark way back in 1805, no one had been able to find it since. Hill sought out and hired Santiago Jameson to search it out and Jameson discovered the pass in 1889 which shortened the Great Northern's route by almost 100 miles.

Unlike his competitors that raced to install more track quickly, Hill realized that quality was important, and his railroad was built slowly, carefully, and with a lot of planning. Hill used steel rails, instead of iron, which were higher quality but cost more to install. Hill constantly tried to learn new ideas and find new ways to make his railroad better, and during his 400 to 500 train trips to the East Coast for business he intentionally rode different railroads to inspect and get new ideas from each one. When he became so successful himself, these same competing railroad companies reached out to Hill for ideas and advice on how to improve their businesses. Tune in next month to find out more about how Hill's insight and business skills, and some somewhat radical things he did, made his railroad even more successful and helped him become "The Empire Builder".

Some lessons learned from this month's article: Don't go too fast – slow down and take the time to do things right. Take the time required to plan ahead, strategize ways to make your business more efficient and profitable. Don't be afraid of personally getting out and seeing your business strategies implemented firsthand. Try to learn from others, even your competition. Try to think about the "big picture" and the "long run", don't just think in the short term.

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## 2023 Legislative Session Moves into Budget-Mode



Two months down and three to go and March madness at the Capitol has begun. The February budget forecast was released on Monday, February 27 showing little overall change to the December headline figure, which was a surplus of \$17.6 billion. The February forecast shows a \$17.5 billion surplus, but this factors in some budget changes the legislature has already passed early in the session, and a new “inflation planning estimate” which took \$1.4B off the top of the budget. All that is to say there was growth in the budget forecast from December to February, but they’re already factoring in new spending. Governor Walz could propose change items to his budget plan based on the new forecast.

As for legislators, they’re ramping up work on policy and budget bills. Capitol insiders refer to ‘March madness’ as three committee deadlines are set this month. These are kind of like dreaded ‘finals’ weeks where individual bills need to clear committee votes in order to stay alive for the remainder of the session. The first bill deadline is Friday, March 10, the second is Friday, March 24 and the third deadline is Tuesday, April 4. At 5pm on April 4<sup>th</sup> the legislature will take a spring break that corresponds with Passover/Easter weekend. They return to work on Tuesday, April 11, to begin the final stages of the legislative session, which must end on May 22.

For Education – this session will likely produce the most significant budget increase the public school system has seen in generations. The DFL political trifecta appears determined to invest heavily in school funding formulas and student supports. There is a staff or labor heavy emphasis on the education bills moving forward, including “paid family & medical leave,” “earned safe and sick time,” raising paraprofessional pay to \$25/hour, providing health insurance for all full-time and part-time (20+ hours/week) at no less than 83% paid for single and 72% paid for family coverage and no more than 50% of total out-of-pocket cost to employees. A proposal by TRA to create a “60/30” retirement plan (retire at 60 with 30 years of experience) would increase the employer reimbursement to TRA by 2.6% on payroll and 0.87% for the employee.

Beyond staff compensation, there’s an emphasis on growing the numbers of teachers of color in Minnesota school districts. Advocates for more teachers of color noted that Minnesota needs 20,000 teachers of color to match up with the student body and there are currently only 3,000 such teachers. Bills to fund more mental health supports for kids, more English language support and literacy training for teachers are all on the move. Buried in the mix are a few odds and ends related to school facilities, including some items on the MASMS platform:

- A modest increase in LTFM funding for schools with revenue caps (Governor’s plan).
- Increase the Agricultural tax credit for taxes paid on school bonds from 70% to 80% (Governor’s plan).
- HF 1360/SF 1884 would triple the Safe Schools revenue program.
- HF 1457/SF 1247 would expand the LTFM program by \$65/pupil for cooperatively owned facilities
- HF 1375/SF 1330 would expand the LTFM program to facilities purchased by schools and repurposed (think an old Walmart in town converted to a CTE facility).
- HF 1396 would improve the school Debt Service levy equalization program, reducing property taxes paid on school facility bonds.

We’re also tracking a bill, HF 347/SF 579, relating to lead testing in schools and required remediation activities.

**MASMS Day at the Capitol** – Here’s the thing, the Capitol can be an intimidating place, but as noted above the legislature is considering a list of proposals that could impact your work. **[Nobody knows school facility needs more than you. If nothing more, come to the Capitol and visit with your lawmakers to simply share perspectives on what your local facility needs are.](#)** Real information is so helpful in the legislative process. We could use your help and you never know when you can make a difference on some of these proposals.

Sincerely,  
Sam Walseth, MASMS Lobbyist

**MASMS Day on the Hill | Wednesday March 22, 2023**  
**Registration Information on Page 8**



## Welcome New Educational Members

Kyle Boerem, Forest Lake Area Schools  
Jeremy DeGraef, Duluth Schools  
Joe Goldman, Southern Minnesota Education Consortium  
Josh Denzer, Visitation Schools

## Welcome New Business Members

Peter Gephart, Center for Energy & Environment  
David Olson, Center for Energy & Environment  
Darrell Bruestle, Sigtex, Inc.  
Kevin Kasmiskie, VIA Lighting  
Justin Kasmiskie, VIA Lighting  
Tim Ross, My Trusted Carpet Cleaners  
Kathleen Donovan, Metropolitan Mechanical Contractors  
John O'Donoghue, ADT Commercial, LLC

# WELCOME

## JOB POSTINGS

Go to [www.masms.org](http://www.masms.org) and select the QUICKLINK labeled Job Postings Jobs are posted daily for positions throughout the state.

**LOOKING FOR JOB DESCRIPTIONS & INTERVIEW QUESTIONS? LOOK NO MORE !**

Go to [www.masms.org](http://www.masms.org), Select "Resources" Under "Quicklinks"

Select "Job Descriptions & Interview Questions" We are always looking for more job descriptions and interview questions. If you would like to share, please contact the MASMS office!

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## March 2023 MASMS Chapter Meetings

**Metro | Tuesday March 14, 2023**  
**North | Thursday March 16, 2023**

**West | Wednesday March 15, 2023**  
**Southern | Friday March 17, 2023**

Please register for the meetings, the instructions are below.

### **Metro Meeting | Tuesday March 14, 2023 | Parkview Meeting Room at the Mall of America**

Location: 60 East Broadway, Bloomington, MN and then located in 5204 Center Court within the mall.

Use the WEST parking ramp (between Nordstrom & Macy's). Enter the WEST parking ramp, accessible from Killebrew Drive, park on street level 1. Enter main mall entrance, proceed straight ahead into Nickelodeon Universe. Parkview Meeting is located in the Southwest corner of Nickelodeon Universe.

- 9:00 Registration & 9:20 Welcome
- 9:30 Fire Marshal Presentation, State Fire Marshal Jacob Lindquist
- 10:30 Building Analytics, Chris Jilek and Mike Zender, UHL Company
- 11:30 Business Meeting and Business Minute
- 12:00 Lunch

### **West Central Chapter Meeting – Wednesday March 15, 2023**

Location: Lakes Country Service Cooperative, 1001 E. Mount Faith Ave., Fergus Falls, Minnesota

- 8:30 Coffee/Rolls & 9:00 Quick introductions of attendees
- 9:05 Preventative Roof Maintenance, Roof Replacement, etc., Jake, Tremco
- 10:00 Current Trends in Playgrounds, Overview of S.A.F.E. Playground Principles, SafetyFirst Maintenance.
- 11:00 Vendor Minute
- 11:30 Lunch

### **North Chapter Meeting**

**Thursday March 16, 2023**

Location: Timberlake Lodge, 144 SE 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Grand Rapids, MN

- 9:00 Coffee and Registration
- 9:30 OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation, David Fossum, Department of Labor and Industry  
Current overview of MN OSHA that includes an explanation of what to expect during an OSHA inspection. Additional focus will be given to frequently cited hazards found in school settings over the last few years.
- 10:30 Getting Infrastructure & Resiliency Projects done with Timely Grants/Funding, Cindy Auld, Honeywell
- 11:30 Meeting & Networking
- Noon Lunch

### **Southern Chapter Meeting**

**Friday March 17, 2023**

LOCATION: South Central Service Cooperative

2075 Lookout Dr, North Mankato, MN 56003

- 9:00 Social Time, Coffee and Rolls
- 9:25 Welcome
- 9:30 Energy, Paul Albinson, CenterPoint Energy
- 10:30 BluePrint Reading, Justin Steffl, ISG
- 11:30 Vendor Minute
- 11:45 Lunch
- 12:15 Business Meeting

To Register for these meetings:

Go to the MASMS website: [www.masms.org](http://www.masms.org);

Select "Member Login" (Top of the window)

Enter your username (first initial and last name)

Enter password "masms" (unless you changed it)

Select "Meeting Registration" (left hand side); Select the Meeting you would like to attend.

Enter your name and school/organization. Select the send button.

As always, contact the MASMS office with questions and/or issues with registration.

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## MASMS Day on the Hill | Wednesday March 22, 2023

This day is a valuable opportunity for MASMS Members to educate the Minnesota Legislature about the important role Building and Grounds play in Minnesota Educational Systems.

This is the time to meet with your Legislators and talk about the expertise MASMS offers as facility issues are debated. The importance of meeting with your legislators on behalf of MASMS cannot be understated.

Wednesday March 22, 2023

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM | Room B15, Minnesota State Capitol

Members attending should schedule Legislator visits between 10:30AM - 1:30 PM **How to contact your legislator to setup a meeting? See information one page 9!**

### Schedule:

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 9:30 AM             | Organizational Meeting with coffee & rolls.            |
| 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM  | Members meet with their legislators (preset meetings). |
| 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM | Lunch will be served between appointments.             |

### Transportation: Carpooling and drive in.

When you sign up, parking instructions and maps will be provided. **We STRONGLY encourage carpooling.** Please contact the MASMS office if you are interested in providing a carpool. **MASMS will cover the mileage cost.** If you plan to utilize one of these carpools, let the MASMS office know when you sign up for this event.

### Carpool sites and rides that we have so far:

#### **Carpool #1: New Prague | Northfield | Burnsville Kain Smith is driving this carpool, room for 5 riders.**

Meet at 7:30 AM at: 502 Kennedy Ave NW, New Prague, MN  
Pickup at 8:00 AM at: Park & Ride at 1569 Hwy-19 Blvd, Northfield, MN  
Pickup at 8:35 AM at: Burger King, 14251 Nicollet Ave, Burnsville, MN  
Arrive at the capital at 9:10 AM.

#### **Carpool #2: St. Joseph | Monticello | Maple Grove Ruth Kraemer is driving this carpool, room for 5 riders.**

Meet 7:00 AM at: St. Joseph Park & Ride, 30268 W. MN Street, St. Joseph MN  
Pickup 7:35 AM at: McDonald's, 100 Oakwood Drive E., Monticello, MN  
Pickup 8:20 AM at: Transit Station, 12350 Main St. No, Maple Grove, MN  
Arrive at the capital at 9:05 AM.

### Additional Information that will be provided when you sign up:

1. Suggestions and guidelines for your visit with your legislator.
2. MASMS 2023 Legislative School Facilities Platform

To Sign up: Email the MASMS Office at [office@masms.org](mailto:office@masms.org).

How to setup an appointment with your legislator continued on page 9.



## MASMS Day on the Hill | Wednesday March 22, 2023

(Continued from Page 8)

### How to setup an appointment with your Legislator:

For a successful event, members need to setup appointments with their legislators.

*If you work in one district and live in another, you could meet with both of them.*

- Step 1:** Click here to find your legislators: <https://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/iMaps/districts/>  
(Reach out to your State Representative and your State Senator!)
- Step 2:** Click here for the most current phone numbers for your legislator:  
<https://www.leg.mn.gov/leg/legdir>
- Step 3:** Call your legislator to setup an appointment on March 22, 2023 between 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM.
- Introduce yourself. Name, position and where you work. If you are a resident of their district, let them know that too.
  - State your purpose for wanting a meeting: That you will be there with MASMS, the Minnesota Association that represents K-12 Educational Facilities. That you want to briefly cover why funding for school facilities is so important and cover the MASMS 2023 school facilities platform.
- Step 4:** Email the MASMS office ([office@masms.org](mailto:office@masms.org)) with your legislator's name and the time you are meeting.

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## 25 MASMS Members Attended Boot Camp on January 17th & 18th, 2023 Great group!

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## MASMS Leadership Training at ALL April 2023 Chapter Meetings Free to All Members

And we invite you to bring your staff to this special event, even if they are not MASMS members.

### Connections Matter | Communication & Leadership—Presenter: Holly Hoffman

When you hear there is going to be a leadership presentation what goes through your mind?  
"That's for our manager to attend." or "Those are common sense things I've heard before."

Holly Hoffman will shatter that mindset with her program on communication & leadership.  
EVERYONE possesses leadership and communication skills that come out in our daily actions  
**no matter what role we are performing**, whether it's at work, as a parent, as a volunteer, or a supportive friend.

Holly is a professional motivational speaker, a native of South Dakota and the author of *Your Winner Within* and *Write Yourself a Note*. Holly acknowledges that life is made up of challenges, and we are oftentimes faced with situations that seem insurmountable. But within each of us is an ability to focus our thoughts, emotions, and energy to succeed—if only we have the knowledge, tools, and discipline to do so.

**This program is laced with humor to reinforce the motivation and inspiration of what it takes to survive in the real world.**

#### This program will be offered:

- April 11, 2023 Metro Chapter, Bloomington MN
- April 12, 2023 Southern Chapter, Rochester MN
- April 18, 2023 West Chapter, Fergus Fall MN
- April 19, 2023 NW Chapter, Bemidji MN
- April 20, 2023 North Chapter, Baxter MN

*Continued on Page 12*



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## MASMS Leadership Training at ALL April 2023 Chapter Meetings (Continued from Page 11)

- Agenda at each location:**
- 9:00 AM Registration and Coffee
  - 9:30 AM Program by Holly Hoffman
  - 11:30 AM Networking & business meeting.
  - Noon Lunch

- General Objectives:**
- The Importance of a Team
  - Framework for Leadership
  - Communication and Leadership does not have to be Complex

- Specific Concepts Covered:**
- Leadership fosters creativity.
  - Leadership is an ability.
  - How to create that special team.
  - Everyday we have one second opportunities.
  - Talk, listen, show and share.
  - Model the behavior you want to see.
  - Connect with people.
  - Involve others as much as possible.
  - The foundation behind leadership.
  - Face to face communication.

**We invite you to bring your staff to this special event, even if they are not MASMS members.**

**To Register:**  
 Go to the MASMS website: [www.masms.org](http://www.masms.org);  
 Select "Member Login" (Top of the window)  
 Enter your username (first initial and last name)  
 Enter password "masms" (unless you changed it)  
 Select "Meeting Registration" (left hand side);

Select the Meeting you would like to attend.  
 Enter your name and school/organization.  
 Select the send button.

*As always, contact the MASMS office with questions and/or issues with registration.  
 ([office@masms.org](mailto:office@masms.org))  
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## MASMS is offering Boiler Training and Exam May 2, 2023 | 8:00 am - 5:00 pm | Marshall Minnesota

MASMS in Partnership with the MN Chief Engineers Guild will be offering a Special Engineer Level Boiler License Review Course **with an onsite exam. Exams will be offered for ALL levels of licensing.**

**To register:** Step One: To register for the review course click here: [REGISTRATION](#)  
Step Two: Complete the Individual Boiler Engineer License Exam Application through the Department of Labor Industry

**Please review all the information below before you register.**

**Agenda:**  
8:00 AM Special Engineer Level Boiler License Review Course  
11:30 AM Working lunch provided.  
12:30 PM Special Engineer Level Boiler License Review Course (Continued)  
1:30 PM Break and Check in for Exam  
2:00 PM Exam Offered Onsite through the State of MN

**Location:** Merit Center, 1001 E Erie Rd, Marshall, MN 56258

**Cost:** \$25 to register (payable to MASMS) includes the 6 hour review course, lunch, and the course workbook (provided the day of the review course) with practice exam.  
\$50 payable to the MN Department of Labor & Industry for the Individual Boiler Engineer License Examination Application.

### Additional Information:

All boiler license exam levels will be available for testing.

**YOU MUST register for the exam on-line** – we cannot do that for you. If you do not, you will not be able to take the exam on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Instructions below.

Please know that you do not have to take the review course, you may just take the exam that you need at 2:00 PM that day. If you chose to do this, then you do not need to pay the \$25 fee.

It is strongly recommended you take the review course. Recommended study materials are listed below.

### Boiler Exam Information:

Complete the Individual Boiler Engineer License Examination Application through the Department of Labor Industry. <https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/license/initialapp.aspx>

*Important, to take the exam:*

- You must apply with the state prior to attending—we will not be accepting applications on site. Please allow for ample time for your application to be processed.
- The help number for licensing questions at MN State Department of Labor and Industry is 651-284-5031
- You can select the Merit Center in Marshall, MN as your exam site on the MN department of labor website after you have:
  - Applied to the state to take your exam.
  - Been approved by the state to take your exam.
  - Paid the \$50 fee to the state.
- You will receive notification from the Department of Labor & Industry once your application has been approved. Bring this documentation and a photo ID with you to the training/test on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Once you pass the exam, the State will send you a second invoice for your license fee.

For more information on licensing, go to:

<https://www.dli.mn.gov/workers/boiler-engineer/licensing-boiler-engineer>

### Study Resources:

Recommended textbook- Safe Boiler Operation Fundamentals: Special Engineer's Guide for the State of MN  
**Order online here** or use the title and ISBN number 978-0-8269-4611-9 to order through your local library..

Videos- Follow Boiler Ben on YouTube for Boiler Training Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/@BoilerBen>



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# Tour of the MSP Airport

## May 9, 2023 | 8:00 AM

We will be holding a tour of three major areas of the MSP airport:

**Energy Management Center | Field Maintenance Buildings | MSP Facilities at Terminal 1**

We will start from the Silver Ramp at T1 and take off on individual busses from there and rotate between the three stops outlined above. We will be rotating three groups.

The leads of each tour will be the heads of each of the departments (we will have what they will be covering at each stop on March 1<sup>st</sup>, that info will be added as soon as it is received.)

Once the groups have completed all three stops, we will head back to the Terminal, pick up Concourse passes and go through security to enjoy lunch in the Airport Conference Center.

### Agenda:

- 8:00 AM Registration
- 8:30 AM Transportation and stop #1
- 9:30 AM Transportation and stop #2
- 10:30 AM Transportation and stop #3
- 11:30 AM Transportation to the Terminal, go through Security
- Noon Lunch

1                      2                      3  
+ 1                    + 2                    + 3  
-----  
2                      4                      6

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When you sign up you will need to provide the following information so we can issue you a Concourse Pass:

Full Legal name as it appears on your ID including first, middle and last; Date of birth including month, date, and year; gender.

### To Register for this event:

Go to the MASMS website: [www.masms.org](http://www.masms.org);  
Select "Member Login" (Top of the window)  
Enter your username (first initial and last name)  
Enter password "masms" (unless you changed it)  
Select "Meeting Registration" (left hand side);  
Select the State Meeting.

Enter your full legal name as it appears on your ID, first, middle, and last name; date of birth including month, date and year, gender and school/organization. Select the send button.

As always, contact the MASMS office with questions and/or issues with registration.  
[office@masms.org](mailto:office@masms.org) OR 1-320-685-4585

## Custodial/Grounds/Maintenance Days

You and your staff are invited to participate in the 2023 Custodial/Grounds/Maintenance Days. This event is a great way to thank your custodial, grounds and maintenance staff.

Education | Networking | Vendor Showcase

### FIVE EVENTS THIS YEAR!

- Metro Area | June 13th and June 14th, 2023  
Eden Prairie Schools
- Northeast Area | June 20, 2023  
Crosby-Ironton Schools
- Southern Area | June 22, 2023  
Red Wing Schools
- Northwest Area | June 27, 2023  
Alexandria Schools

Watch for registration forms in March.

All your staff is welcome to attend, even if they are not listed as a MASMS Member!

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# BOOT CAMP

## Boot Camp Information

The MASMS Boot Camp is specifically designed to provide training for facility professionals. It is of great value for newly employed facilities managers or seasoned veterans.

**Dates & Time:** Wednesday July 19th & Thursday July 20th, 2023  
 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM with dinner at 6:00 PM on Wednesday evening.

**Location** Holiday Inn, St. Cloud, MN

**Cost** MASMS covers the cost of this training. This includes cost of class, hotel rooms, and meals.

## The following Topics will be Covered

Standards	Best Practices	Equipment Needs	Budgets	Management Tools
Inspections	Checklists	Staff Management	Training	

**Course Description** This course will provide practical experience and proven techniques to help improve skills in the facilities management field. We will describe today's best maintenance practices and show how other schools have developed high performance facility departments.

**Instructors** This course is taught by seasoned experienced facility staff from public schools. Mike Boland (No St. Paul/Maplewood/Oakdale ISD #622), Scott Hogen (Mankato Schools), Chris Pint (Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan ISD#196) and Laura Masley (Elk River Schools), that have over 75 years of combined experience!

**Questions/Register** | Contact Ruth at the MASMS office. (office @ masms.org or 320-685-4585)



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## Attention Business Members

### Call for Educational Session Proposals | MASMS Fall Conference | October 5 & 6, 2023

MASMS is inviting proposals for educational breakout sessions for the 2023 MASMS Conference.

**Education is a very important part of our conference each year.**

**Our member's assistance in delivering high quality educational sessions is truly appreciated.**

- Ideas for presentations are listed below – or come up with your own ideas for topics that you think may be of interest.
- Presentations should be 50 minutes in length.
- Presentations should be product and vendor neutral. The endorsement of certain products or vendors must be avoided.
- If you are selected you could be scheduled for either of the two days. If you cannot present on one of these specific dates, please indicate.

**Dates:** Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 & Friday October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Location:** Holiday Inn & Suites, St. Cloud Minnesota

If you are selected you could be scheduled for either of the two days.

**Submittals are due by March 15, 2023. Please provide this information and email to office@masms.org:**

- 100-word descriptor of the course.
- A short professional bio of the presenter.

Submittals will be reviewed & selected by the Education Committee in April. You will be notified if you are or are not selected.

### Some Ideas!

**Hiring Procedures** How to interview and be interviewed; roundtable practice sessions on interviewing.

**Custodial Operations:** Custodial Staffing Levels; Effective Hiring Procedures; Custodial Supervision & Evaluation; Equipment & Selection

**Building Systems:** Boiler Operator Review; HVAC Maintenance; Energy Benchmarking; Lighting; Building Automation Systems

**Environmental Health & Safety:** Health & Safety 101; Indoor Air Quality; Playground Safety; Health & Safety Funding Basics; ADA Education; Crisis Planning

**Maintenance Operations:** Building Envelope Maintenance; Roof Maintenance; Preventive Maintenance; Grounds Maintenance; MN Building Codes & Construction

**Financial Management:** Capital Plan Development; School Finance 101; Life Cycle Cost Analysis; Public Relations Skills; MN Buildings Codes/Practices

**Leadership:** Public Relations; Labor Negotiations; Bargaining Basics; How to Build Consensus; Public Relations Skills; Staff Development

### Educational Committee Members:

Maureen Mullen [mmullen@plsas.org](mailto:mmullen@plsas.org)

Mat Miller [mathew.miller@olmstedcounty.gov](mailto:mathew.miller@olmstedcounty.gov)

Jeff Arthurs - [ArthursJ@District279.org](mailto:ArthursJ@District279.org)

Margaret Bishop - [mbishop@nexussolutions.com](mailto:mbishop@nexussolutions.com)

Tracy Closson [TClosson@northfieldschools.org](mailto:TClosson@northfieldschools.org)

Todd Lieser, [todd.lieser@isd623.org](mailto:todd.lieser@isd623.org)

Cole Nelson, [cnelson@northfieldschools.org](mailto:cnelson@northfieldschools.org)

Chris Neil, [chris@uhlco.com](mailto:chris@uhlco.com)

Paul Hadden, [phadden@plsas.org](mailto:phadden@plsas.org)

*We thank you for taking the time to consider this request.  
The MASMS Educational Committee*

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## Attention Business Members

MASMS Chapters are selecting educational sessions for the upcoming Custodial/Grounds/Maintenance Days

If you would like the opportunity to present, please contact the MASMS Office.

We depend on our Business Members to present educational session at these events!

### Presentation opportunity dates and locations:

Metro Area		June 13th and June 14th, 2023 Eden Prairie Schools
Northeast Area		June 20, 2023 Crosby-Ironton Schools
Southern Area		June 22, 2023 Red Wing Schools
Northwest Area		June 27, 2023 Alexandria Schools

## Attention Educational Members

It would be great if your chapter would like to hold a summer MASMS networking event.

**Guidelines for MASMS Chapters that would like to plan a summer event:**

Budget of up to \$1,500 per chapter.

- To be used for food, non-alcoholic beverages and event rental space.
- Request may be made to the State Executive Board for additional funding if needed due to the number of potential attendees.

**Suggestions**

- Have business member provide beverages of their choosing.
- Picnic type event.

The MASMS office will help plan and book event space for the event.

Just contact the office at [office@masms.org](mailto:office@masms.org) or (320) 685-4585.



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## MASMS 2023 Scholarship Opportunity

The MASMS Scholarship Committee is accepting essays from sons and daughters of all dues-paying and life members (**educational and business members**) of MASMS who are high school seniors graduating in 2023 or are currently a post-secondary student attending a post secondary school in the United States.

The MASMS Tom Robinson Memorial Scholarship program is in memory of a long time employee with the Hopkins School District in the field of maintenance. He was instrumental in writing software for the State Department of Energy and served on multiple MASMS committees for many years.

### HOW TO APPLY

All applications and essays will be submitted electronically using the link below. You will receive an email confirmation once you submit your application. When you click on the link, complete the application form and submit your essay by April 15, 2023. (You may also go to [www.masms.org](http://www.masms.org) and select "2023 Student Scholarship" to submit your information.)



Continued on Page 20

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## Scholarship Application Continued from Page 19

### Essay specifications:

- Maximum of two pages, type written, double spaced narrative.
- Financial need is not a consideration.
- This essay should NOT have your name on it, or any reference that would identify the applicant or his/her parent.
- Essay should contain:
  - ◊ Personal data to include school, community activities in which you have participated during high school and/or post secondary (e.g. student government, music, sports, church, volunteer work, etc.
  - ◊ Discussion of awards and honors you have received.
  - ◊ Description of your work experience (without any reference to a business which may be owned by your parent). Include how long you have worked at each job and the number of hours worked per week.
  - ◊ Discussion of your grade point average. While the committee will not base scholarship awards on the highest grade point average, they do feel that some discussion on this topic is appropriate.
  - ◊ Your educational goals and aspirations.

All information will be reviewed by the MASMS scholarship Selection Committee. **Awards will be announced by letter in early May 2023.** Checks will be issued after proof of enrollment has been received.

### SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

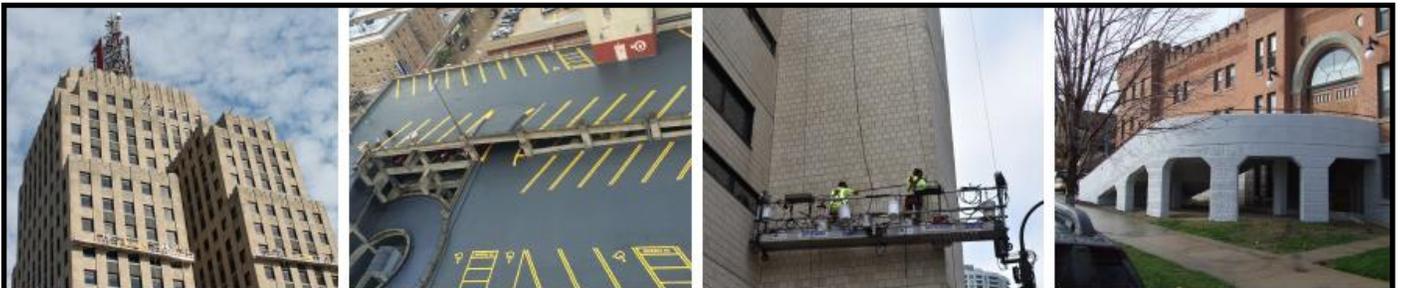
The number of scholarships awarded will be based on available funds. Awards will range from \$250 to \$1500 per person. Each person may receive a lifetime limit of \$2000.

Applicants will need to have a google account to submit this form. Link: <https://forms.gle/aDxjApyrbZMxPvbF8>

**Please note: You must be a registered member of MASMS.**

**Children of all business and educational members are eligible; grandchildren are NOT eligible.**

If you have any questions, please email Scott Clemente at: [scott@servpro10278.com](mailto:scott@servpro10278.com) or the MASMS Office at [office@masms.org](mailto:office@masms.org)



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# New Funding Options for K-12 Facility Improvements

*Submitted By Andrew Zwally,  
SitelogIQ Northeast Regional Director of Government Affairs & Special Projects*

Each year, schools across the country are home to new students and staff, each with unique and varying educational programing needs and expectations. As a space for both education and growth, your school's learning environment may require upgrades to improve your energy efficiency and indoor air quality, which impact students' health and performance. Funding for these types of infrastructure projects is often limited, however, both [the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) and the Inflation Reduction Act may be the key to helping you achieve those facility improvements.

## **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) was signed into law by President Joe Biden in November 2021. The investment into rebuilding America's infrastructure includes a variety of funding opportunities to improve facilities by delivering healthy and safe schools. The Department of Energy [recently announced](#) a funding opportunity under its Renew America's Schools grant program to fund projects involving:

- High-Impact Energy Efficiency and Health Improvements, which includes direct reductions to school's energy costs, increase in energy efficiency, improved teacher, and student health benefits.
- Innovative Energy Technology Packages, which includes energy efficiency measures, renewable energy technologies, and alternative fuels for school uses .

Final application deadline of April 21, 2023.

## **Inflation Reduction Act**

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) was signed into law by President Joe Biden in August 2022. This act prioritizes the investment into renewable energy and related technologies, such as the deployment of heat-pumps, community solar, and EV charging stations. The IRA will offer funding for projects involving:

- Energy efficient equipment and installation (HVAC, lighting, etc.)
- Renewable energy systems
- Demand control energy storage
- Water conservation fixtures
- EV charging fleets and infrastructure

In addition, dedicated funding sources for school air quality grants and technical assistance has been created as a part of the IRA in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These specific grants include:

- \$37.5 million for activities to monitor and reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions at schools in low-income and disadvantaged communities, and
- \$12.5 million for technical assistance to schools in low-income and disadvantaged communities to address environmental issues; develop school environmental quality plans that include standards for school building, design, construction, and renovation; and to identify and mitigate ongoing air pollution hazards.

Guidance for the IRA, which will include parameters and deadlines for applying for funding, has yet to be released and the EPA is received public input for their school air quality grants and technical assistance through January 2023.

## **How These Projects Benefit Your K-12 District**

The quality of your school's infrastructure can greatly impact the health of your students and staff as well as your students' ability to perform academically. We know that your top priority is keeping them in the learning environment. The IRA program can provide funding to help your district complete facility updates to create a healthier learning environment while improving your energy efficiency. Some examples of improvement projects the funding may support include:

### **Lighting**

While natural light has a variety of positive influences on learning and productivity due to its psychological and physiological effects, it's not without its disadvantages. It can't be the only light source, of course, as inclement weather, early winter darkness, and nighttime events all require a secondary source of lighting.

Energy-saving lighting is an area where many schools can save money. Replacing old, headache-inducing lights with LED bulbs can reduce energy costs, decrease maintenance needs, and even improve safety due to their reduced heat output. These eco-friendly lights can also pair with advanced lighting controls.

Continued on page 22

## New Funding Options for K-12 Facility Improvements (Continued from Page 21)

Connecting your lights to the Internet of Things (IoT) can automate the task of keeping your building bright. You can reduce consumption by turning off lights in spaces that are not in use or install lights that respond to the amount of natural daylight present, reducing or increasing the brightness as necessary. Many of these lighting solutions can also help make your facility more sustainable.

### Indoor Air Quality

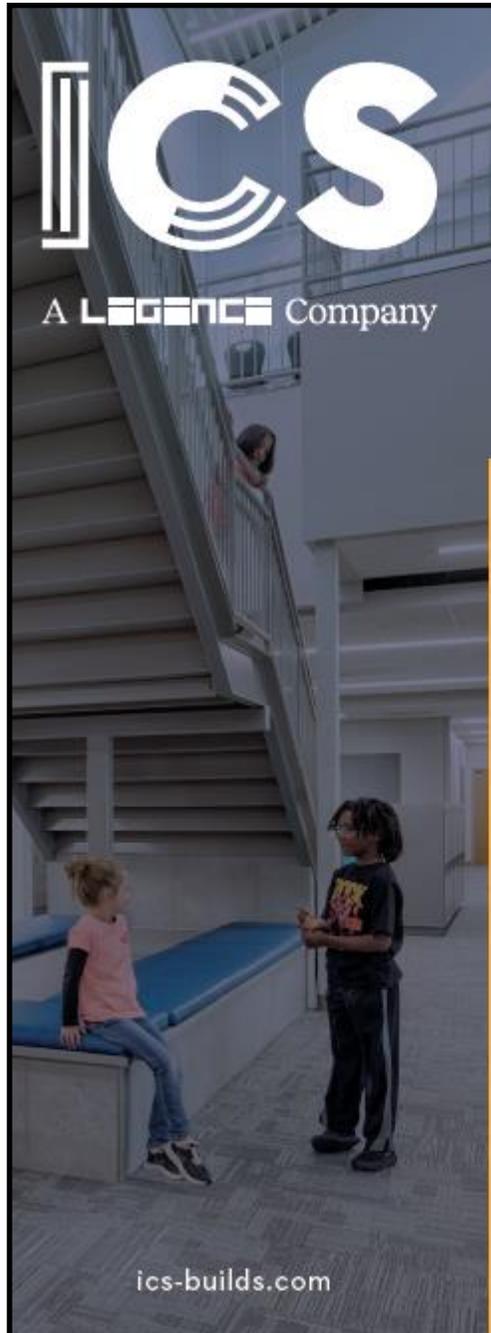
Indoor air quality (IAQ) has a pronounced effect on children compared to adults, making IAQ in schools a matter of special importance. Poor IAQ can have an immediate impact on students and teachers, causing allergic reactions or asthma attacks in severe cases. IAQ impacts comfort levels as well, either promoting or detracting from positive attitudes and concentration. No one wants to feel trapped in a stuffy room.

In addition to these immediately felt consequences, exposure to pollutants like dust, mold, and mildew can be detrimental to health long-term. One study even found that teachers with prolonged exposure to relative humidity levels that were either too high or too low were more likely to experience respiratory problems. Bacteria, viruses, allergens, and irritants may continue to thrive in a room despite efforts to sanitize surfaces because the RH is contributing to the problem.

Every school should have their IAQ assessed to determine effective improvement measures. This includes auditing the HVAC system and identifying any potential pollutants that need to be filtered. A humidifier or dehumidifier may help maintain comfortable and healthy RH levels.

### Your Next Step to a Healthier K-12 Space

Now is the time to identify and plan for facility upgrades and improvements, and partner with a facility solutions expert to help deliver those projects. These unique funding opportunities will be competitive and have a limited application window.



Find out all the answers to questions you see MASMS members post.

Go to [www.masms.org](http://www.masms.org)

And select the QUICKLINK labeled Questions and Answers From MASMS Members



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## MASMS Calendar

March 14, 2023  
 March 15, 2023  
 March 16, 2023  
 March 17, 2023  
 April 11, 2023  
 April 12, 2023  
 April 18, 2023  
 April 19, 2023  
 April 20, 2023  
 May 9, 2023  
 June 13 – 14, 2023  
 June 20, 2023  
 June 22, 2023  
 June 27, 2023  
 July 19-20, 2023  
 October 4, 2023  
 October 5, 2023  
 October 6, 2023

MASMS Metro Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS West Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS Northern Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS Southern Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS SPECIAL Metro Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS SPECIAL Southern Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS SPECIAL West Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS SPECIAL Northwest Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS SPECIAL Northern Chapter Meeting  
 MASMS STATE MEETING—Airport Tour  
 Metro Custodial/Grounds/Maintenance Days  
 NO/NW/West Custodial Grounds/Maintenance Days  
 Southern Custodial/Grounds Maintenance Days  
 2nd NO/NW/West Custodial Grounds/Maintenance Days  
 Boot Camp  
 MASMS GOLF EVENT CONFERENCE  
 MASMS CONFERENCE/TRADE SHOW  
 MASMS CONFERENCE

# MIDWEST GROUNDCOVER EXPRESS BLOWER SERVICE

SAVE THOUSANDS ON YOUR NEW PLAYGROUNDS



NOW OFFERING BLOWN IN NATURES PLUS TAMARACK ENGINEERED WOOD FIBER

BLOWN IN PLAYGROUND SURFACING EXPERTS

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 TO PLAYGROUND COMPANIES STATE CONTRACT PRICES!

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 WE PROVIDE **FREE** ONSITE SAFETY SURFACING CONSULTING & ASSESSMENTS IN THE METRO AREA.  
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## Free MPCA Turf grass Maintenance Trainings

The MPCA Turf grass Maintenance Certification Training focuses on best management practices (BMPs) for lawn/turf care and maintenance that can save you money while protecting our valued lakes and streams.

### Topics covered:

- Environmental impacts of common turf BMPs
- Equipment calibration and improved mowing and maintenance techniques
- Selection and application of fertilizers and pesticides
- Better weed control and irrigation practices
- Legal issues to consider

### Who should participate?

- Private/public park, cemetery, city and/or school grounds maintenance professionals
- Property managers writing contracts
- Turf care product distributors

### When:

March 22<sup>nd</sup> (online) Register [HERE](#)  
 March 29<sup>th</sup> (Apple Valley) Register [HERE](#)  
 April 13<sup>th</sup> (online) Register [HERE](#)

For more information check out the [MPCA Turf grass maintenance training page](#)