



Minnesota Educational Facility Management Professionals

The Messenger

Virtual MASMS January State Meeting

Managing Your Stress in Times of Uncertainty with Dr. Cindra Kamphoff
January 12, 2021 at 1:15 PM

As we continue to navigate through these uncertain times, more than ever, we need to manage our stress and build our resilience every day. Join us for this 60 minute zoom event.

- Understand stress and provide tools to reduce it
- Think about how to grow resilience during this time
- Learn key focus-improving questions to help go with the flow
- Practice a Challenge over a Threat mindset to help you maintain energy
- Lead yourself with grit, resilience, and energy to help lead your school
- Stay focused on what you can control, and more....



STRESS



**When you reduce your own stress during this time,
you make you,
the people you care about,
and your school stronger.**

You have three options to join this Zoom Event

Zoom On-Line, or call into the meeting or do both – use the video on-line Zoom and the audio on the phone.

Option Zoom On-Line:

Join Zoom Meeting go to: <https://zoom.us/j/98502286956> | Meeting ID: 985 0228 6956 | Password: 874856

Option Call In:

Dial in: 1 (312) 626 6799 | Meeting ID: 985 0228 6956 | Password: 874856

Pre-registration is not required.

Please note that this event will be recorded for replay for those that cannot attend on January 12th.



All MASMS In Person Events are canceled until
May 1st, 2021 Due to COVID 19

CONTACT US



(320) 685-4585



ruth@masms.org



[linkedin.com/company/masms](https://www.linkedin.com/company/masms)



[MASMS.ORG](https://www.masms.org)

IN THIS ISSUE

January State Meeting.....	1	MASMS Legislative Platform.....	6
Message from the Board.....	2	Legislative/MDE Committee.....	9
Health & Safety	3	New Members.....	10
Project Highlight	4	Message Board	11
Vendor Corner	5		

**MESSAGE FROM
THE BOARD**



*Chris Wirz
President Elect*

Wow, I get to write the final 'Message from the Board' for 2020. I'm not sure if I should feel giddy about this or relieved that 2020 is finally coming to an end. This has truly been one of the most stressful years in my 35+ years of service to the educational system.

While the start of 2020 seemed to start off normally, it quickly changed in March. We almost immediately changed our home dens and kitchen tables into our offices; Skype, Zoom, WebEx and Google Meet became our primary forms of communication; we became "experts" amid a COVID-19 pandemic; students were no longer filling our halls; procuring masks, disposable gloves, sanitizer and disinfectant became our biggest challenge; and MASMS chapter meetings, state meetings and conferences were cancelled. I don't believe any one of us could have predicted that our job duties and professional lives would change so dramatically in such a short period of time.

Together, we as leaders in our school districts have come together, without literally coming together, to fight challenges with COVID-19 that have affected each and every school district throughout the state. This is the largest challenge we have faced in recent history and no one seemingly has a real answer to it. Together we've come up with some good solutions and ideas on how to attack this pandemic and do our best to keep our facilities as clean and sanitary as possible so that we may continue to educate students together in one place. While most schools have taken

a short break from in-person learning, that break gives us a little more time to re-evaluate our district plans and prepare for another run at bringing students back into our buildings safely.

A huge **THANK YOU** needs to go out to each and every one of you for your relentless efforts associated with this pandemic. Our district administrators look to us for answers and if we don't have them, we call upon our peers to find them. While all is not perfect and all answers are not complete, our collaboration has brought us closer together as a MASMS family. I haven't been able to attend most of the COVID forums that MASMS hosts on Thursday mornings due to commitments I have within my district, but those that I have attended have had very productive conversations. I urge you to attend the Zoom meetings if you have not done so in the past. You will either find shared information that will benefit you in your district or you may be able to share information with others to help them with the challenges in their district. MASMS is about helping each and every one of us succeed in our positions and we will all succeed if we help each other out through the challenges of 2020 and beyond.

Lastly, take care of yourself and your family. Take some time during the holidays to step away from the keyboard and screen, take a deep breath, spend some quality time with your loved ones, recharge your batteries and we'll all take on 2021 together.

Be Safe,
Chris Wirz

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Pillager Secondary Schools | Pillager, MN
Submitted by Widseth
Check it out on page four!

*Proudly serving Minnesota's
K-12 schools for over 35 years!*

MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL DESIGN

HVAC • Plumbing • Fire Protection
• Lighting • Power Distribution

COMMISSIONING/RECOMMISSIONING

New Construction • Existing Systems
• Retro-Commissioning • LEED®

ENERGY SERVICES

Energy Modeling • Energy Studies

FACILITY ASSESSMENTS

Inventory Lists • Life Cycle Analysis • Improvement Costs



**HALLBERG
ENGINEERING**

Mechanical / Electrical / Commissioning / Energy



WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN

651.748.1100

DULUTH, MN

218-729-9202

www.hallbergengineering.com

A Minority-Business Enterprise (MBE)



Health & Safety The MASMS Health & Safety Committee supplies information for this section. If you have a specific topic you would like to see covered, let the MASMS office know.

Let's dig into understanding the difference in face coverings!

- A cloth face covering may be made of nearly anything. According to OSHA they are not considered PPE and they do not protect the wearer due to loose fit, lack of seal and inadequate filtration.
- A surgical mask is cleared by the US Food and Drug Administration as a medical device and are used to protect workers against splashes and sprays. They may also be used to contain the wearers respiratory droplets. However, they also have a lack of fit and seal, therefore they do not protect the wearer from airborne infectious agents.
- Cloth face coverings and surgical masks essentially protect the user about the same amount, however, the surgical mask has it's FDA certification behind it.
- N95s are approved by The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). NIOSH is the United States federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related injury and illness. N95s protect the wearer from inhaling small particles, including airborne infectious agents.

We have had questions about the "Humanity Shield". This product does not fit snugly against the sides of the face. A face covering should fit snugly against the sides of the face according to CDC and MDH guidelines. This product would not replace a face covering. It could, however, replace a face shield. Face shields must touch the user's forehead and extend below the chin and to the ears, per MDH. They are allowed by MDH in the following educational situations:

- Among students in Kindergarten through grade 8 when wearing a face covering is problematic
- By teachers when wearing a face covering is impeding the educational process
- When staff, students or visitors cannot tolerate a face covering due to a developmental, medical, or behavioral health condition
- When staff are providing direct student support services if the face covering impedes the service being provided.

Key takeaways:

- Face coverings are not a substitute for social distancing.
- If staff members are voluntarily utilizing N95 respirators, they should be given an OSHA Appendix D form.

If staff members are **required** to utilize a respirator as part of their job, they need to be included in the respiratory protection program, Medical evaluations, fit tests, recordkeeping, etc.

We carry locally manufactured water treatment products by 3M.

3M Water Filtration Products

Contact YES for assistance with your water treatment needs including:

- Lead Removal
- Chlorine / Sediment Reduction
- Hardness Reduction
- Drinking Water
- Water for Kitchen Equipment
- Specialty Water Treatment

The **YES Group**
 651.452.9889 • justin@theyesgroup.com
 www.theyesgroup.com

NAC

Mechanical • Electrical • Fabrication
 Building Technology • 24 Hour Service

Factory trained and certified technicians **quickly diagnose** and provide solutions using **advanced remote monitoring** and predictive diagnostics tools that allow NAC to provide industry leading service and repairs for any mechanical & electrical system.

Over 100 dedicated service professionals providing prompt 24-hour service.

info@nac-hvac.com ♦ 651-490-9868
 1001 Labore Industrial Ct Vadnais Heights, MN 55110

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Pillager Secondary School | Pillager, MN

Description: 63,700 s.f. addition to the existing K-12 school building. The addition consisted of two classroom wings, with a smaller addition that serves as a multi-purpose room for Early Childhood and Family Education.

Architect & Engineer: Widseth
Field Supervisor: Ron Robeck

Construction Manager: Nor-Son
District Staff: Chuck Arms, Superintendent (Retired)



PROJECT HIGHLIGHT SECTION

**THIS SECTION
HIGHLIGHTS
SCHOOL BUILDING
PROJECTS
THAT HAVE BEEN
HAPPENING IN MASMS
MEMBER'S SCHOOLS!**

Vendor Corner



*Mike Remington, Inspec
MASMS Vendor Rep*

Doing the Right Thing

You often hear the phrase “Do the Right Thing”, but what does that really mean and how do you know what the “right thing” is? I heard a quote many years ago that had stuck with me since (I think it was actually from the Matrix movie): “Knowing what the ‘right thing’ to do is usually quite easy, it is the ‘doing it’ that is the hard part.” I had a personal experience last year that I thought I’d share:

My company responded to a Request for Proposals for a reroofing project for the Minnesota National Guard. I was delighted to see that my company had “won” the RFP – we scored the most points even though our fee wasn’t the lowest of the three firms that responded. However, at the bottom of the RFP results there was a note that said: “Inspec is a Targeted Group Vendor and receives a 6% preference.” I wondered what type of “targeted group” we would fit into, so I looked at the RFP and it was apparent that they had made a mistake – Inspec wasn’t a targeted group and did not deserve the 6% preference, and on top of that it likely meant that one of the other firms was a targeted group and they should have got this preference instead of us. My mind started racing with thoughts like: maybe it’s not a mistake, it isn’t my job to look for mistakes and get them corrected, I’ll just keep my mouth shut no need to rock the boat, etc. I reached out to my business partner to bounce the situation off him too, we really needed the work. It was late in the day, so I decided to sleep on it and figure it out in the morning.

The next morning, I woke up and immediately knew what I had to do, I had known what I had to do the entire time in hindsight. By the time I got to the office and checked my email my partner had chimed in too: We need to “do the right thing”. I contacted the person at the National Guard and as I had thought, they said there had been a mistake and one of the other firms was a targeted group and should have received the 6% preference instead of us. Even though I thought we had now lost the project, it sincerely felt good that we had done the right thing and handled the situation in an ethical way. Fortunately, as it turned out we still had enough points to get the project, but we didn’t expect that when we made the decision.

I can remember over the years a couple of my mentors at Inspec telling me “we need to step up and do the right thing, no matter how painful that is and it usually does cause some pain”. Keep that in mind when you face situations where you need to figure out “the right thing” to do and remember that knowing what the “right thing” is typically is the easy part – it’s the “doing” that is the hard part.

Have a Happy Holidays! Mike



Time’s Running Out for

YOU

to Save!

***Dec. 31 is the deadline to submit
this year’s rebate applications!***

Don’t delay! The clock is ticking for you to submit rebate applications for qualifying 2020 natural gas equipment installations.

Visit [CenterPointEnergy.com/](https://CenterPointEnergy.com/MNEducation)
MNEducation for details or contact
Paul Albinson at [Paul.Albinson@](mailto:Paul.Albinson@CenterPointEnergy.com)
CenterPointEnergy.com or 612-321-4323.

**CenterPoint.
Energy**
ALWAYS THERE.®

Information from Sam Walseth, MASMS Lobbyist MASMS 2021 Legislative Platform

The 2021 legislative session officially begins on Tuesday, January 5th. It promises to be a bumpy ride with divided government and a major state budget deficit. Before we get there we have one more special session in December to process through. Governor Walz will reissue the peacetime emergency order for another 30 day period around December 10, and therefore the legislature will return for at least a one-day special session to review the orders. The legislature will have the opportunity to vote to terminate the orders, but that seems unlikely now that COVID-19 cases are spiking across the state and nation.

The other major piece of news in early December is the state's budget forecast. The forecast will show projected spending and revenues for the remainder of the current budget cycle, which ends on June 30, 2021. More importantly, it will show the big picture numbers for the next biennium, which spans July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. We expect a multi-billion deficit for the next biennium.

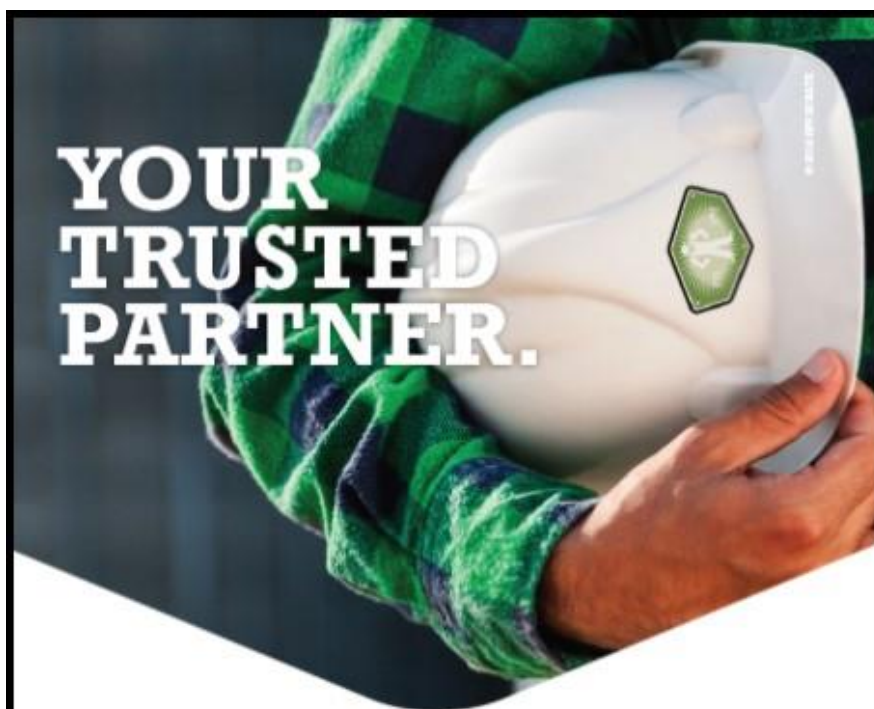
Regardless of the big picture dynamics around COVID regulations and budget deficit solutions, our work around school facilities continues. The voters are returning a divided legislature to St. Paul with even thinner majorities. The Senate GOP's previous 35-32 majority has been reduced to 34-33. The House DFL's previous 75-59 majority has been reduced to 70-64. Forced compromise is a must they will have to accept sooner or later. The state's constitution says the legislative session must adjourn by May 17, but past experience suggests otherwise.

In 2011, the last time we had a major divide in the legislative process and a huge deficit it took a partial government shut down and until July 23rd for the powers that be to finalize a budget agreement. That agreement included delaying 40% of school aid payments from one fiscal year into the next as a budget savings tool. School district officials weren't happy with it, but it does work and they should expect it again.

As we look at advocating with legislators this session, it's helpful to have a one-page platform document to use when communicating with them. The MASMS Executive Board will work to finalize the platform draft early in 2021, however, in the meantime, we hope to gather your input in this process.

On page 7-9 is a draft 2021 MASMS platform that builds off of our 2020 work. We continue with a focus on improving funding for deferred maintenance by calling forth the need to improve the LTFM program or at least bring the non-Alternative Facility districts closer to where the 'big 25' Alternative Facility districts are at. We've also staked out a position defending the current scope of work that LTFM can go toward and advocate for other revenue streams to be used for remodeling and safety issues, before watering down the scope of LTFM funds.

Continued on Page 7



For over 25 years, EnviroBate has been your trusted environmental and specialty contracting partner.

Our service list includes Asbestos Abatement, Lead and Mold Remediation, Interior Demolition, Interior Poly Protection and HVAC/Duct Cleaning.

EnviroBate's customized projects are some of the largest in the Upper Midwest. You can breathe easy knowing your project is being lead by the best people, equipment and knowledge in the industry.

Make EnviroBate your trusted partner. Contact Dana Krakowski at 612.437.5797 or dkrakowski@envirobate.com for more information.



ENVIROBATE®
ENVIRONMENTAL & SPECIALTY CONTRACTING

WWW.ENVIROBATE.COM

Information from Sam Walseth, MASMS Lobbyist | MASMS 2021 Legislative Platform Continued from Page 6

To better address safety, remodeling and new construction, we propose the legislature open up additional safe schools revenue and cooperative facilities revenue. For the larger projects, we're asking the state to maintain its commitment to the Agricultural bond credit for school bonds and to improve the Debt Service Equalization formula to provide more property tax fairness for paying off school bond debt.

Last, but not least, we're supporting legislation that's been working its way through the process to clarify the radon testing schedule and to urge law enforcement to play a role in assisting schools with the removal of unclaimed drugs from their premises.

Please let us know your thoughts on these issues and provide other insights as the MASMS leadership team works to focus on our advocacy for the 2021 legislative session. Please contact the MASMS office at ruth@masms.org with comments/suggestions/ideas for the MASMS 2021 Legislative Platform.

MASMS 2021 Legislative Platform

The Minnesota Educational Facilities Management Professionals Association (also known as MASMS) is a group of over 700 individuals working in facilities, grounds, health and safety operations for Minnesota K-12 and higher education. We are committed to promoting excellence in the operation and care of educational facilities. To meet our mission, MASMS has taken positions on the following legislative considerations:

Long Term Facility Maintenance Revenue (LTFMR) - Deferred Maintenance: Long Term Facility Maintenance Revenue (LTFMR) - Deferred Maintenance:

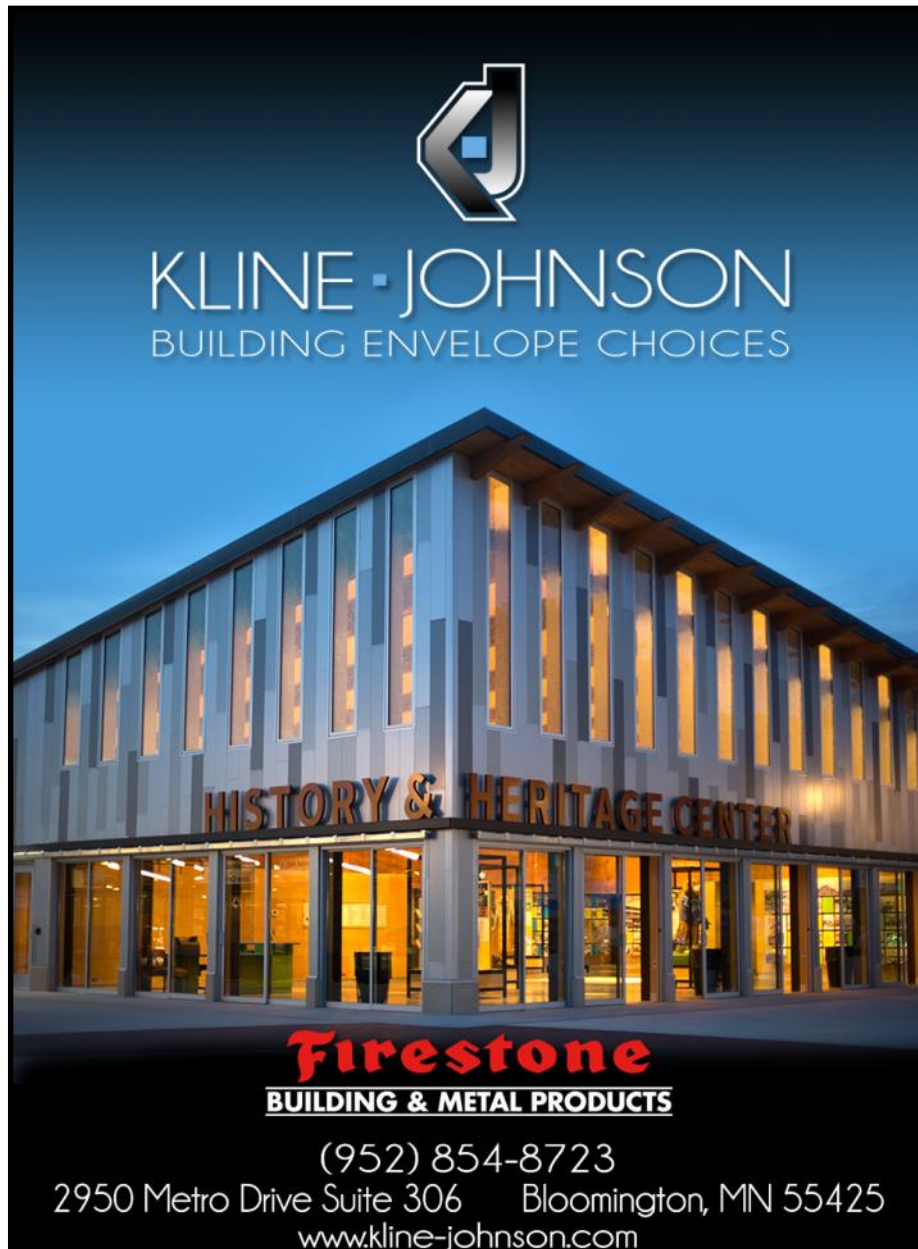
MASMS advocates for closing the funding gap for deferred maintenance between the Alternative Facility districts and the districts using LTFMR. We believe the statutory limit on revenue for LTFMR should be removed as long as a school district's 10-year facilities plan is approved by the Commissioner of Education, consistent with current practice for the 25 districts now eligible for Alternative Facilities revenue.

MASMS opposes efforts to expand the allowable uses of LTFMR, which would diminish the revenue available to address deferred maintenance needs.

Facility Improvements:

To address facility improvements outside of the LTFMR and Alternative Facilities limitations, MASMS supports the facility funding recommendations contained in the 2020 MDE School Finance Work Group report and other programs including:

Continued on Page 8



KLINE · JOHNSON
BUILDING ENVELOPE CHOICES

HISTORY & HERITAGE CENTER

Firestone
BUILDING & METAL PRODUCTS

(952) 854-8723
2950 Metro Drive Suite 306 Bloomington, MN 55425
www.kline-johnson.com

MASMS 2021 Legislative Platform Continued from Page 7

- Increasing state support for Debt Service Equalization
- Creating a Homestead bond credit
- Expanding the \$65/pupil lease levy for districts using cooperative educational facilities
- Increasing Safe Schools revenue to schools and cooperative educational entities
- Maintaining the Ag2School building bond property tax credit at 70%

Radon Testing:

MASMS supports legislation requiring schools to test for radon according to industry standards. Costs associated with radon testing can be covered through Health & Safety revenue already available to schools.

Unclaimed Pharmaceuticals:

MASMS supports legislation making it clear that school personnel are not allowed to transport unclaimed drugs or medications and that law enforcement is required to assist in these matters.

Please let us know your thoughts on these issues as the MASMS leadership team works to focus on our advocacy for the 2021 legislative session. Please contact the MASMS office at ruth@masms.org with comments/suggestions/ideas for the MASMS 2021 Legislative Platform.

34th Year of Service

STOP SLIPPERY FLOORS & STEPS

Sure Stop Floor Safety

"your fast and dependable solution to any slippery floors and steps"

call 763 571-1769

www.surestop.com

We do Pool Deck, Locker Room, Kitchen Quarry Tile, Terrazzo, Entry and more!



INDUSTRY EXPERTS

Theater & Stage



Rooftop Smoke Vent Inspections & Repairs





SOUTHERN MINNESOTA INSPECTION

www.SMItheater.com

- Inspections
- Repairs
- Upgrades
- Renovations
- Curtains
- Softgoods
- Tracks
- Rigging
- Counterweight
- Hoists
- Winches
- Roll Drops
- Fall Protection

Serving all of Minnesota

Eagle Lake MN | 507-257-3742
sales@southernminnesotainspection.com
www.SouthernMinnesotaInspection.com

Curtain Replacement




**Legislative
COMMITTEE**

MASMS Legislative/Department of Education Committee

Chairperson: Heather Nosan, Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan | MASMS Executive Board

Purpose:

The Legislative Committee exists to develop and implement comprehensive and effective government affairs strategies for the association at the state level.

Charges:

- Analyze and develop recommendations for action on state legislation.
- Review legislation that impacts MASMS members; discuss potential effects, advantages and disadvantages and possible advocacy strategies.
- Develop recommendations on strategies for advocacy on key legislation.
- Work with MASMS Lobbyist on issues affecting MASMS members.
- Work with MASMS Lobbyist on the yearly MASMS Legislative Platform.

Time commitment:

- Conference call meetings as required, approximately 4 hours per year.
- Email correspondence with MASMS Lobbyist on an as-need basis (approximately 2-4 times a month).
- Outreach to members as needed.



MULCAHY
**INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS
& UNPARALLELED SERVICE**
FOR THE HEATING & COOLING INDUSTRY

As the largest hydronics rep in the Upper Midwest, Mulcahy provides technical expertise and industry-leading equipment to increase the efficiency, reliability, and ease-of-use that customers expect from their heating and cooling systems. Whether it's simply an idea or a completely engineered system, **Mulcahy has the tools to make it work.**

MULCAHY mulcahyco.com 651-686-8580 Eagan, MN



**Mobile Radio
ENGINEERING, INC.**

The Twin Cities Metro Area's leading provider in mobile communication solutions for over 65 years!

Authorized Representatives for:
KENWOOD *Vertex Standard*

Your one-stop shop for:

- State-wide service and installation
- Service on all major brands
- Wide area & local dispatch radios
- FCC licensing
- Leasing options available

Installation of:

- GPS tracking systems
- Camera and Video systems
- Child check systems

HOME OF 

Contact us today for all of your mobile communication needs!
763-544-3319
www.mobilerradioeng.com
745 Boone Ave N, Golden Valley, MN 55427

MASMS only exists because of the passion, the support and the contributions of our educational members, business members, chapter and state leadership and volunteers. We should take a moment to acknowledge this very unique association and to say thank you to each and everyone involved in MASMS.



This year we were unable to meet in person as we would have liked, however members stay connected and not only carry on, but take the time to share information with each other, helping all members through these difficult times.

My wish is for everyone connected with MASMS to enjoy a great new year!

Happy Holidays! Ruth Kraemer, MASMS Office

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Educational Members

Seth Hamm, Fridley School
Daniel Buchholz, St. Cloud Schools

Business Members

Monty Becker, CFS Interiors & Flooring
Steven Rosenthal, Aerus Electrolux

Conversations with other MASMS members on Covid19

To keep MASMS members connected and informed, we created a weekly virtual meeting for directors/supervisors to discuss current topics. We hold this meeting every Thursday at 9:00 AM. To participate please email the MASMS office at ruth@masms.org.

Personalized Solutions, Personalized Service.

As the leading manufacturer of high-performance building envelope solutions, Garland has been providing innovative solutions for more than 120 years.



High-Performance Solutions:

- Low-Slope Roof Systems
- Metal Roof Systems
- Roof Restoration & Reflective Coatings
- Rainscreen Systems & Wall Solutions
- Vegetative & Sustainable Options
- Adhesives & Accessories

High-Quality Services:

- Trained Local Representatives
- Manufacturer & Engineering Support
- Roof & Building Exterior Inspections
- Budget Assistance
- Comprehensive Building Asset Management
- On-Demand Maintenance & Repair Tracking



The Garland Company, Inc.
800-321-9336 • www.garlandco.com
Troy Thompson • 612-991-4651
Brian Thompson • 612-710-0787
Brian Skoog • 612-810-4336

HIGH DUST REMOVAL



Difficult Access **SPECIALISTS**

We specialize in quality, environmentally safe
DUST REMOVAL
for large commercial projects.

Plus Window Cleaning and Hard Water Spot Removal!

**All MASMS Events/Meetings will be held virtually until May 1, 2021.
There will be no in person events until then!**

MASMS EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT | COLIN GREEN, WASECA SCHOOLS
PRESIDENT ELECT | CHRIS WIRZ, ST. FRANCIS SCHOOLS
VICE PRESIDENT | OPEN
PAST PRESIDENT | JIM LEUER, ROCKFORD SCHOOLS
SECRETARY | KAIN SMITH, FARIBAULT SCHOOLS
TREASURER | KEVIN HILDEBRANDT, ISG
VENDOR DIRECTOR | MIKE REMINGTON, INSPEC

NORTHERN CHAPTER DIRECTOR
 OPEN

SOUTHERN CHAPTER DIRECTOR
 KEVIN JOHNSON, RED WING SCHOOLS, RETIRED

METRO CHAPTER DIRECTOR
 CHRIS WIRZ, ST. FRANCIS SCHOOLS
NW CHAPTER DIRECTOR
 SETH PUTZ, LAKE OF THE WOODS

WEST CHAPTER DIRECTOR
 DOUG SLININGER, ADA-BORUP SCHOOLS

Correction in the MASMS 2021 Printed Directory:

Gabrielle Forstner's, Mavo Systems, had her email listed incorrectly. Her correct email is: gforstner@mavo.com.

On-line Training Opportunities

MASMS realizes that opportunities over the past few months to receive credits for the MASMS certification program have been cancelled. You can find information for on-line courses to take on-line, and receive credit for the MASMS Certification program.

Login at www.masms.org and select the "On Line Training Opportunities". If you choose to take any of the on-line classes (listed on this site or others that you find), **you must email the MASMS office to receive credit for the class.**

Contact the MASMS office with questions (320) 685-4585 or ruth@masms.org

UPCOMING MASMS EVENTS

12/8/20	MASMS Metro Zoom Meeting
12/16/20	MASMS Southern Zoom Meeting
12/17/20	MASMS No/NW/West Zoom Meeting
1/12/21	MASMS Virtual State Meeting

Looking for a Mentor? Options Include:

Meet with your MASMS Mentor in person or phone contact only.
 Contact the MASMS office at ruth@masms.org if you are interested!

Today's Edition

No. 11-2020

Waconia Daily Telegraph

School Leaders Turn Into Super-Heroes!

LED Conversion Saves District Tax-Payers \$624,000



Waconia School Board - Photo Taken After Project Approval

Students and staff will be walking into completely transformed schools this year because of Waconia's partnership with the Bright Schools Project.

New integrated LED lights with controls will save the district over \$624,000.

There was no initial investment on the project and the ten-year capital lease carried an interest rate of 2.6% - resulting in immediate cash-flow back in the districts budget.

DAVID SWAN

Bright Schools Project, Anoka MN

David@BrightSchoolsProject.org