



Minnesota Educational Facility Management Professionals

The Messenger

September 2020
Newsletter

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NEW SECTION IN THE NEWSLETTER

We are happy to announce a new "Project Highlight" section in the MASMS Newsletter. This section will highlight school building projects that have been happening around our state. We are excited to showcase the new and remodeled school buildings in the upcoming months, starting with the October issue!

Due to the impact of COVID-19 that would affect the overall quality of in-person chapter meetings, and most of all for the safety of our members, it is with regret that MASMS will be cancelling all in person events until January 1, 2021.

All MASMS 2020 Chapter meetings will switch to ZOOM meetings. Please watch your email for schedules.

A big thank you to our Chapter Officers for all their work and planning of Chapter Meetings. If you have topic that would be of interest, and would work well as a ZOOM presentation, please contact the Chapter Officers (contact info is in the Message Board section of this newsletter).

Custodial workers have always been a key part of maintenance, cleanliness and keeping schools safe, but during this outbreak, the importance of their roles has greatly increased. Officially deemed an essential job, cleaners have taken on the role of frontline soldiers in the battle to stop the spread of coronavirus.

Many are working tirelessly to keep schools, essential businesses, manufacturers, hospitals and government buildings as clean and disease-free as possible. Concern about the shortage of personal protection products is a daily topic in the news and it's also a daily hardship in the sanitation field. Workers face the everyday fear of coming in contact with the possibly deadly virus, risking their own lives and their families' lives as well.

School janitors and every individual in the custodial and sanitation field deserves recognition, respect, and support now more than ever. While cleaning jobs have historically been classified as a high safety risk, they are now extremely hazardous and we want to honor those who selflessly commit to keeping our schools safe.

Thank you to you and your staff.
The MASMS Office

The "Tool Box" for Educational Facility Management Professionals

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



Kain Smith
State Secretary

I know everyone has a million things to do with the start of school so I'll make this article short so you can get back to getting things done. With the start of school its becoming more of a physical and mental drain on I'd say most if not all people in our profession.

You're most likely getting pulled in a million directions, being asked questions you're not sure you have the correct answers to, rearranging classrooms 50 times and the list goes on and on.

I take a lot of pride in not letting things get to me, but even I have to admit this Covid stuff is testing my wits and pushing me to my limits. Then it happens that one person from out of nowhere comes up to you and says thank you for all the work you're doing for our district, I appreciate it, you're doing a great job. Wow! That one 10 second compliment from out of nowhere just gave me the boost I needed to keep me going.

A lot of us that work behind the scenes don't get much recognition and most of us don't want it. We just do our job and go home, but it sure does feel good when someone out of nowhere recognizes the hard work we do.

The moral of this story is don't forget to acknowledge your crew, coworkers, and vendors for the hard work they do everyday. It just might get them over the hump they've been struggling with. Doesn't matter who you are - custodian, director, or vendor, we are all trying to get through this Covid stuff together.

Here's hoping everyone has a successful school year and remember your hard work is appreciated.

Take care, Kain Smith, Director of Buildings & Grounds/Health & Safety, Faribault Public Schools

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Update on 2019 MASMS \$1000 Award Recipient | Hayfield Schools



We wanted to update MASMS on the progress to our mural the students have been working on that was funded by a MASMS 2019 grant.


They have a few final additions and the mural will be complete. To see this in-person is just awe-inspiring!

The students even worked weekends, late nights, and some early mornings. The detail is awesome, including ships sailing into shore as well as some hidden items in the mural for students to try and find.

thank you!

Thank you again for offering this opportunity. It has been a great experience and rewarding as well. With what the schools and communities are going through now, this was a blessing in disguise.

Thanks again, Terry Picha | Facilities & Grounds Director, Hayfield Community Schools



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Vendor Corner



**Mike Remington, Inspec
MASMS Vendor Rep**

Facing the Challenges of Working Remotely

So a manager takes two of his employees out for lunch one day and while they are walking to the café they find an old dusty oil lamp. One of them tries to rub it clean and a genie appears and says “I will grant you each one wish!”. The first employee says “My wish is to be on a sailboat on the Mediterranean eating fine Italian cuisine and drinking wine!” and poof, she’s gone. The second employee says “My wish is to be sitting on a sunny beach in Hawaii with a fishing pole in one hand and a Pina Colada in the other!” and poof he disappears. The manager then says “My wish is: I want both of those employees back at the office by the end of lunch!”.

The ongoing virus crisis has been very difficult and challenging for many reasons, including many people working remotely at times and not coming into the office. This has created new and unique challenges for both the businesses and their employees. First, let’s give a shout-out to the many people that were deemed essential and continued to report to their jobs and serve

their customers throughout this crisis, thank you! While first responders, health care professionals, grocery store workers and others have received a lot of well-earned attention and appreciation, no doubt many of you have continued to show up at your office or job sites and a big THANK YOU goes out to all of those people as well.




One big challenge working remotely is communication: communicating with co-workers, communicating with other vendors, and communicating with clients and customers. While online meetings and emails can help fill the gap, they just don’t stack up many times with face-to-face meetings and discussions. With very few in-person meetings, lunches, educational sessions and seminars, organizational meetings like MASMS meetings, etc., it seems you just don’t “bump into” as many people anymore. You need to make a concerted effort, now more than ever, to work hard to stay in contact with people in your business and industry and then realize the challenges of relying on emails and online meetings to accomplish that task. Also, remember we still have access to that old outdated tool called a telephone, sometimes a simple phone call can accomplish more than a hundred emails!


While there are many “tips” for working remotely available online and elsewhere, there is one “tip” I will provide based on my own personal experience: Realize that everyone and their situation is different. Some people work very successfully remotely, while others truly struggle. Some people “can’t” work remotely due to their job and its duties, while others have jobs that are more conducive to working from home. Some people have unique personal situations (their children’s school is closed, their day care isn’t open, they have special health conditions, etc.) that require them to work remotely, at least some of the time. It’s only human nature to wonder at times: “I’m here every day, why aren’t they?” or “How come they get to do that and I don’t?”, etc., but realize everyone is different and has their own personal situations and also their own role to fill. Try to focus on how you can do your job better, but also how maybe you can help those that aren’t able to come into the office as much as they’d like.

Take care, stay healthy and keep wishing for good things!

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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



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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.



Have we tried
unplugging
2020,
waiting ten
seconds,
and plugging
back in?



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Applications for 2020 installations are due by Dec. 31. Questions? Contact Paul Albinson at 612-321-4323 or Paul.Albinson@CenterPointEnergy.com

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Benefits of Gratitude

These two stories are identical with the exception of replacing one word.

Regularly utilizing 'GET' in place of 'HAVE' in our internal and external dialogue is an EASY way to begin the practice of daily gratitude.

Story One:

Each morning when the alarm clock sounds, I have to jump out of bed and get ready for work. I have to make my coffee and chase after my children to remind them to get dressed, brush their teeth and comb their hair. On the way to daycare, I have to listen to the kids sing, chatter and - sometimes even - scream. Then off to work I go - because I have to. I have to earn an income to for my family. I have to work on projects, and I have to do so many things. Sometimes I have to deal with difficult situations that push me to grow personally and professionally. When I get home from work, I have to make dinner and then clean up the mess. Then, its bedtime for the kids and I have to read them their favorite story. I have to tuck them in and kiss their sweet faces. Now, it is time for more work! I have to finish some work emails; I have to do laundry and I have to pay some bills so that we can keep a roof over our head and enjoy the comforts of running water and electricity. Finally, I have to climb in my bed and rest because I have to wake up early tomorrow and do it all over again!

Story Two:

Each morning when the alarm clock sounds, I get to jump out of bed and get ready for work. I get to make my coffee and chase after my children to remind them to get dressed, brush their teeth and comb their hair. On the way to daycare, I get to listen to the kids sing, chatter and - sometimes even - scream. Then off to work I go - because I get to. I get to earn an income to for my family. I get to work on projects, and I get to do so many things done.

Continued on Page 8

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Benefits of Gratitude (Continued from Page 7)

Sometimes I get to deal with difficult situations that push me to grow personally and professionally. When I get home from work, I get to make dinner and then clean up the mess. Then, its bedtime for the kids and I get to read them their favorite story. I get to tuck them in and kiss their sweet faces. Now, it is time for more work! I get to finish some work emails; I get to do laundry and I get to pay some bills so that we can keep a roof over our head and enjoy the comforts of running water and electricity. Finally, I get to climb in my bed and rest because I get to wake up early tomorrow and do it all over again!

*Gratitude
IS THE BEST
attitude*

Notice the difference in the stories by simply replacing ONE word? Why is practicing gratitude in our lives so important?

Things are changing so quickly - we are all moving so fast - that we sometimes forget to slow down to be grateful for all that we have.

Finding gratitude in our everyday life is such a powerful tool to change our entire perspective on life. Today, take a minute and find the reasons for gratitude in your life!

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 Scott Monson, SiteLogiQ
 Jenn Stammeyer, Wold Kinect Energy Service
 Scott Speer, Highlands
 Chris Arenz, Gordian
 Steve Persons, CFS Interiors & Flooring
 Brian Haugdahl, WL Hall Co.
 Justin Crandall, Midwest Groundcover
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 Kirk Youngerberg, MEI- Total Elevator Solutions
 Chris Boxmeyer, Ultra Durable Technologies
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 Paul Hahn, Hillyard
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 Tom Holm, Green Science Solutions
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 Sarah Meier, Cosney Corporation
 Rick Smith, Mannington Commercial
 Matt Bignell, Mathias Die Co.
 Jonah Cagley, American Time
 Rhonda Flagstad, Siemens
 Scott Bosacker, Ideal Energies
 David Leapaudt, JLG Architects

MASMS MEMBERSHIP IS DUE

The MASMS Membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th each year. Membership renewal forms are sent out with the conference registration forms.

With the conference being cancelled this year, we have many members that did not pull out the membership forms and did not renew their membership.

If you have not done so, please renew your membership as soon as you can. Membership forms can be found on the MASMS website, www.mamsms.org. Select "Membership Forms and Information" under Quicklinks.

Why join MASMS?

If you are interested in furthering your career, joining MASMS is a good start. MASMS is a synergistic group, meaning that the effect of a collection of people is greater than just one person. .

Enhance your network:

For most people, creating professional relationships is important, and joining MASMS allows you to have a sense of security and trust. From this, you are able to support and help one another in reaching your goals. MASMS sponsors numerous events throughout the year that allow you to connect with your peers. You can share ideas, ask for advice, volunteer to be a speaker or become a member of a committee. You have the opportunity to learn about breaking news, learn "best practices" or new ideas, and brainstorm with others who are also looking to share and learn new information. Another benefit is that you may find a mentor to help you with your professional needs or you may be in a position to become a mentor to someone else. Giving back can be the greatest reward and benefit.

Take charge of your career:

Another important reason to join MASMS is to take advantage of career resources. MASMS has job listings online for members. Also listing MASMS membership on your resume is impressive to current or future employers as it shows that you are dedicated to staying connected in your profession.

Broaden your knowledge:

MASMS provides an enormous amount of access to resource information. Additionally MASMS provides a source for scholarship information, links to publications, and awards for persons achieving excellence in their field.

2020 MASMS Scholarship Recipients

Each Year MASMS awards \$15,000 in scholarships to the children of MASMS Members.

Students submitted an essay, description of awards and honors received, description of work experience, and their educational goals and aspirations. Each applications is anonymously submitted to the scholarship selection committee. The committee members rate each one, assigning a number based on a 100 point system. The MASMS office then takes the rating and matches them back to each application.

A big thank you to the Scholarship Committee Members. We appreciate your time spent on MASMS Scholarship selection.

We are happy to announce the following receipts of the MASMS 2020 Scholarships!

- Caitlin Ackerman | Parent Mark Ackerman, ISD11
- Courtney Ackerman | Parent Mark Ackerman, ISD11
- Leah Bergstrom | Parent Paul Bergstrom, H2I Group
- Ashlyn Bradford | Parent Justin Bradford, ISD719
- Megan Carlson | Parent David Carlson, ISD270
- Joelle Chen | Parent Dave Chen, Nilfisk Advance
- Cajsa Clarke | Parent Brian Clarke, ISD 599
- Aubrey Compo |Parent Tony Compo, ISD 99
- Gabriel Hagen | Parent David Hagen, ISD 2125
- Annie Harding | Parent William Harding, Johnson Controls
- Ty Heckenlaible | Parent Dale Heckenlaible, ISD 279
- Emily Larsen | Parent Laura Larsen, ISD 834
- Grace Leslie | Parent David Leslie, Portico Systems
- Mia McLaughlin | Parent Michael McLaughlin, ISD 112
- Ohnica Melenich | Parent Kent Melenich, ISD 877
- Mason Meyer | Parent David Meyer, ISD 709
- Bethany Miller | Parent Daniel Miller, JLG Architects
- Ellie Miller | Parent Troy Miller, LHB, Inc.
- JeAnna Miller | Parent Daniel Miller, JLG Architects
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- Emily Reps | Parent Timothy Reps, ISD 858
- Heather Reps | Parent Timothy Reps, ISD 858
- Kaitlyn Smith | Parent Brian Smith, ISD 2170
- Mackenzie Smith | Parent Kain Smith, ISD 656
- Michael Spooner | Parent David Spooner, ISD 709
- Julia Worke | Parent John Worke, ISD 756
- Sierra Wroolie | Parent Dustin Wroolie, ISD 308

Chapter Officers Information

Chapter Officers are an important part of MASMS. Monthly chapter meetings are a staple of MASMS, providing educational and networking opportunities on a regular and continuing basis. Without chapter officers, chapter meetings would not happen! Thank you to all who volunteer each year at the chapter level.

With chapter meetings not taking place this spring, chapter officer elections were not held. Nominations will be taken at the Zoom Meetings in September and voting will take place via email in October.

Chapter President:

Presides over chapter meetings, prepares agendas and helps select educational programs for chapter meetings and custodial days.

Vice President: Assists in selecting educational programs, presides over chapter meetings in the absence of the president.

Secretary: Keeps minutes of all the chapter meetings.

Director: The liaison between the Chapter and the Executive Board bringing information and concerns to and from the chapter.

Vendor Rep: The liaison between the vendor members and the Chapter Officers.

Chapter positions to be filled for 2020:

President | Metro Chapter

Vice President | Southern Chapter

Secretary | North, Northwest and West Chapters

Director | North, Northwest and West Chapters

Consider volunteering as a chapter officer. Contact your current chapter officers to offer your skills and knowledge. New ideas for educational sessions are always welcome. Please share your ideas with your chapter!



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The MASMS 2020-2021 State Vice President Position Will Not be Selected This Year

Each year MASMS elects a State Vice President. This position is a four (4) year commitment. It is nominated and voted on at the MASMS Fall Conference.

Due to the cancellation of the Fall Conference this year, the MASMS Executive Board voted and passed a decision to not select this position until the 2021 Fall Conference. It will be a 3 years commitment instead of a 4 year commitment for this one election.

On October 1, 2020:

Jim Leuer will move to Past President

Colin Green will move to President

Chris Wirz will move to President Elect

Vice President Position will remain vacant until the 2021 Fall Conference.

UPCOMING MASMS EVENTS

09/15/20	MASMS Metro Zoom Meeting
9/16/20	MASMS Southern Zoom Meeting
9/17/20	MASMS No/NW/West Zoom Meeting
10/13/20	MASMS Metro Zoom Meeting
10/15/20	MASMS No/NW/West Zoom Meeting
10/21/20	MASMS Southern Chapter Meeting
11/10/20	MASMS Metro Zoom Meeting
11/19/20	MASMS No/NW/West Zoom Meeting
12/8/20	MASMS Metro Zoom Meeting
12/16/20	MASMS Southern Zoom Meeting
12/17/20	MASMS No/NW/West Zoom Meeting

MASMS EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT | JIM LEUER, ROCKFORD SCHOOLS

PRESIDENT ELECT | COLIN GREEN, WASECA SCHOOLS

VICE PRESIDENT | CHRIS WIRZ, ST. FRANCIS SCHOOLS

PAST PRESIDENT | DON HANSON, OSSEO SCHOOLS

SECRETARY | KAIN SMITH, FARIBAULT SCHOOLS

TREASURER | KEVIN HILDEBRANDT, ISG

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NORTHERN CHAPTER DIRECTOR

EARL WOLLEAT, BRAINERD SCHOOLS RETIRED

SOUTHERN CHAPTER DIRECTOR

KEVIN JOHNSON, RED WING SCHOOLS, RETIRED

METRO CHAPTER DIRECTOR

CHRIS WIRZ, ST. FRANCIS SCHOOLS

NW CHAPTER DIRECTOR

REED MCFARLANE, LAKE OF THE WOODS, RETIRED

WEST CHAPTER DIRECTOR

DOUG SLININGER, ADA-BORUP SCHOOLS

Do you have information that will benefit MASMS Members?

Do you want the opportunity to present this information at MASMS Chapter Meetings?

MASMS Chapters are now in the process of setting up their speakers for the Chapter Meetings for the 2020/2021 year.

If you have a topic that you feel would be beneficial to our members, and would like the possible opportunity to speak at the monthly chapter meetings, please contact the Chapter Presidents – as they line up the speakers for each meeting.

Their contact info is below, along with the MASMS Guidelines for Vendor Presentations.

Metro Chapter	President: Laura Larsen, Stillwater Schools	Phone: (651) 351-8382	Email: larsenl@stillwaterschools.org
Northern Chapter	President: Karl Flier, Pine River-Backus Schools	Phone: (218) 587-8004	Email: kflier@prbschools.org
Southern Chapter	President: Scott Kaminski, Mankato Schools	Phone: (507) 207-4014	Email: skaminl@isd77.org
Northwest Chapter	President Jason Hruby, Thief River Falls Schools	Phone: (218) 681-5250	Email: jason.hruby@myproowler.org
West Central Chapter	President Russ Winkels, Perham Dent Schools	Phone: (218) 346-1546	Email: rwinkels@perham.k12.mn.us

MASMS Guidelines for Vendor Presentations

1. Presentations must be educational in nature and not be a “sales pitch” that promotes your products or services. These presentations should be for education and professional development and not for competing with other vendors.
2. If the presenter uses the presentation as a method to “sell” their products, MASMS officials have the authority to stop the presentation.
3. Any presenter that does not follow these MASMS guidelines may be excluded from presenting at future MASMS events.
4. Presenters should provide MASMS with a short title and description of the presentation in advance that MASMS can use to promote the presentation.
5. Presenters are responsible for providing their own handouts to attendees.
6. Please keep track of the time and make sure your presentation takes only the amount of time that was allotted for it, including any questions.