



The “Tool Box” for Educational Facility Management Professionals

MASMS now has five chapters to serve members!

There was a Northern Chapter, then the Metro Chapter, followed by the Southern Chapter, and quite a few years later the Northwest Chapter, and now there is a West Central Chapter!

MASMS is growing, connecting and offering educational opportunities to more members each year!

All members are welcome to attend any chapter events at the location that works best for them!

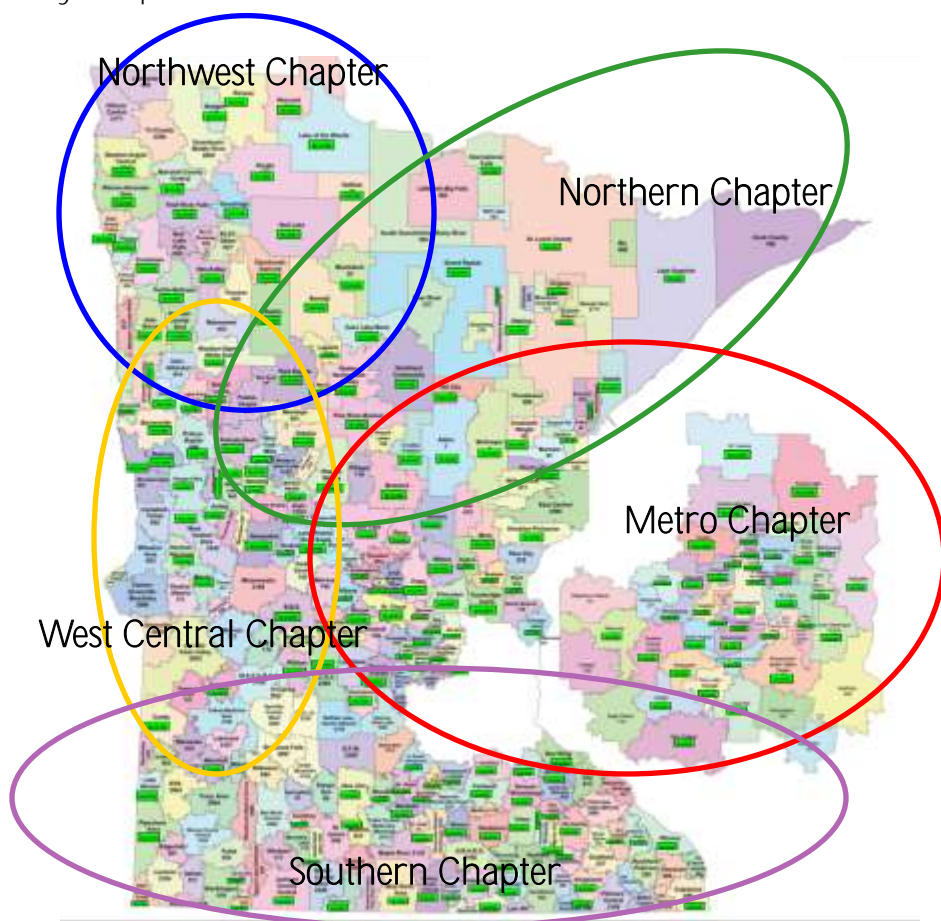
West Central Chapter

The first planning meeting for the West Central Chapter meeting was held in Fergus Falls on April 5th. Over 26 people attended representing 19 schools. 13 attendees are new to MASMS (8 schools), and 13 were MASMS members, (11 schools) who now have a shorter commute to chapter meetings.

West Central Chapter Officers



(Left to Right) Secretary Wade Nibbe, West Central Area: Director Doug Slininger, Ada-Borup: VP Russ Winkels, Perham-Dent: President Rick Koval, Glyndon Felton; Vendor Rep will be selected in fall when meetings start.



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MASMS Chapter Officers Each chapter has a governing body consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Director and Vendor Rep. Each chapter is responsible for setting up chapter meetings, educational sessions and helping with the custodial day event in their area.

MASMS State Board of Directors The state board of directors is the overall governing body; they approve budgets, establish long-term strategy, oversee various organizational policies, and assist the Chapter Officers.

This fall at the annual conference, MASMS will be asking a member to step forward and Off their name for nomination for the State President Elect position. This is a three year commitment—**one year as president elect, one year as President and one year as past president.** It's a great way to learn more, meet more members and help members. Maybe that person is you?

Educational Opportunities.....

MASMS 2017 Custodial/Maintenance/Grounds Appreciation Day

You and your staff are invited to participate in the 2017 MASMS Custodial, Maintenance & Grounds Day.

A Great Way to THANK your Staff!

Education ~ Networking ~ Vendor Expo ~ Door Prizes ~ Great Food ~ Fun

Just \$25 a person! Registration Includes Lunch!

Metro Chapter ~ Wednesday June 14 OR Thursday June 15, 2017

Orono High School, Orono, MN

Same program is being offered two days. (Gives you the option to send 1/2 your staff each day!)

Northern, Northwest and West Chapter ~ Tuesday June 20, 2017 ~ Forest View School, Baxter MN

Southern Chapter ~ Thursday June 22, 2017 ~ Prairie Winds Middle School, Mankato MN

Go to www.masms.org to download registration forms.

Questions? Just contact the MASMS office at (320) 685-4585 or ruth@masms.org. This is a great day for maintenance, custodial and grounds staff. Give yourself and your staff a day for learning new things & networking with peers!

CPS Class Scheduled for August 8-9, 2017—Minneapolis MN

The CPS certification is part of the requirements for the MASMS Certification Program. We have 15 openings available for this class. The AFE fee for this training and examination is \$500. MASMS covers the cost of hotel. Study materials will be sent to you when you register. The first day of the class, and the morning of the 2nd day is a review of those materials. The afternoon of the 2nd day is the exam.

This class is a review of the study materials, and is not meant to be complete instruction. You must spend the necessary time studying the materials prior to the class.

How to register:

Email the MASMS office that you will be applying for this class (ruth@masms.org) and you will be emailed the application. Fill out the application and send it back with the \$500 check (or credit card info) to the MASMS office before June 26, 2017 (at that date, it would give you about 5 weeks of study time).

MASMS July 2017 Boot Camp SIGN UP EARLY ~ IT WILL FILL FAST!

Wednesday July 19th and Thursday July 20th, 2017 —8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

(Dinner 6:00 PM Wednesday evening) at the Holiday Inn, St. Cloud, MN.

Cost: MASMS will cover the cost of this training. This includes cost of class, hotel room for Wednesday night (and Tuesday night if 1.5 hour drive), and all meals. (Meals include: Wednesday lunch and dinner; Thursday breakfast & lunch; break for both days.)

Boot Camp Information: The MASMS Boot Camp is specifically designed to provide training for facility professionals. The training will be of great value for newly employed facilities managers or seasoned veterans. Custodial—Grounds—Maintenance Management—Security—Health & Safety—Transportation

Contact Ruth at the MASMS office to register. Ruth @ masms.org or 320-685-4585

WANT TO HIGHLIGHT A NEW SCHOOL BUILDING YOUR COMPANY DESIGNED OR BUILT or A NEW SCHOOL BUILDING IN YOUR DISTRICT ?

We are looking for pictures for the front and back of the 2017 MASMS Directory.

We need high quality pictures (outside and inside), a short description of the building along with all business members connected to the project (Architects, Construction Managers, Engineers, District Staff, etc.)

Please contact the MASMS Office at 1-320-685-4585 or ruth@masms.org with questions or to submit pictures and info.

(The first 3 submitted will be selected for the cover of the directory).



NEW EDUCATIONAL MEMBERS

Tom Nelson, Pequot Lakes ISD #186
 Sean Anderson, Fergus Falls Schools
 Steve Bakken, Breckenridge Schools
 Rick Kraft, Moorhead Area Schools
 Tammi Kramer, Herman-Norcross Schools
 Neil Kusler, Breckenridge Schools
 Kevin Mitchell, Lake Park Audubon Schools
 Leo Ohren, Ashby Public Schools
 Neil Puchalski, Breckenridge Schools
 Dan Ross, Fergus Falls Schools
 Trevor Steeves, Pelican Rapids Schools
 Don Szweduk, Barnesville Schools
 Tyler Baumann, Eastern Carver County Schools
 Todd Johnson, Eastern Carver County Schools
 Kyle Johnson, Eastern Carver County Schools
 Aaron Schindler, Eastern Carver County Schools
 Mike Baxter, Morris Schools
 Kory Smith, Edina Schools
 Brent Neisinger, ROCORI Schools

NEW BUSINESS MEMBERS

Edward Kodet, Kodet Architectural Group
 Kelly Martinez, Kodet Architectural Group
 Jennifer Hilsgen, Enviro-Air
 Christopher Johnsen,
 St. Croix Recreation Fun Playground Inc.
 Mike Basich,
 St. Croix Recreation Fun Playground Inc.
 Michael Radke, Victaulic
 Paul Niffenegger, Innovative Office Solutions

Vendor Corner

*Mike Remington, Inspec
 MASMS Vendor Representative*



Focus on What YOU Can Contribute to Build Relationships

One of the many tips on developing and strengthening business relationships is to focus on what you can contribute or give others, versus what they can do for you. Many times as vendors, we tend to focus on ourselves and our products or services instead of really trying to figure out how we can help the other person. Even if that person is not likely to become a future customer you may still be able to help them by providing some information, advice, referral or other help. Try to focus on the other person's needs and find a way to offer them any help you can, versus focusing on your products or services and how great they are.

As Dale Carnegie once said: "You can make more friends in two months by becoming interested in other people than you can in two years by trying to get other people interested in you."



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Use Proper Body Language to Help Become a Better Listener: Expose Your Heart

Make sure that you turn toward the speaker. Orient the heart and the upper portion of your body toward the speaker. People self-disclose more to listeners facing them. Even a quarter turn away signals a lack of interest to the speaker. To communicate you are an open, confident speaker and listener, you need to show your heart!

Watch for next month's Listener Body Language Message!



MASMS State Meeting Tuesday May 9, 2017

9:00 AM—1:15 PM

McNamara Alumni Center U of M Campus

1 ~ Keynote Speaker— PJ FLECK

2 ~ Two Breakout Educational Sessions

Natural Grass Turf Management – John Hopko

Stormwater Management - Mike Remington, Inspec

Followed by Lunch

3 ~ Tour of the TCF Stadium

Get a behind the scenes look at TCF Bank Stadium!

Free to all MASMS Members

(Educational & Business Members!)

**MASMS is covering the speaker fees, tour fees,
lunch and parking fees!**

State Meeting Agenda

- 8:30 Registration
McNamara Alumni Center,
U of M., 200 Oak Street SE, Mpls MN
Park at the Univ Ave Parking Ramp
- 9:00 Keynote Speaker, PJ Fleck
- 10:00 Break/Networking
- 10:15 Breakout Education Sessions
- 11:15 Lunch & Business Meeting
- 12:15 Tour of the TCF Stadium
(Right Across the Street)

There is a block of rooms reserved at the Commons Hotel on the U of M Campus (15 Washington Ave SE, Minneapolis MN). Rate is \$159 per night. Reservations 612-379-8888 and ask for the MN Educational Facilities Management Professional Association

(Note: MASMS is NOT covering hotel costs.)

*An event you
don't want to
miss!*

Wacky Ideas for May

Create a wacky
celebration on a May day.

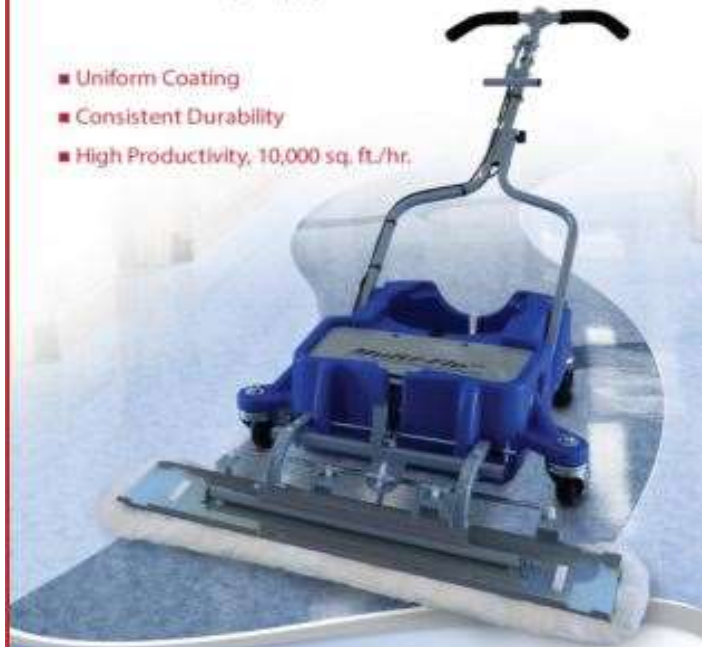


- ~May 5th—Cinco de Mayo
- ~Thank your receptionist on Receptionists' Day May 10th
- ~Eat What You Want Day—May 11th
- ~ Know a funny limerick—Limerick Day is May 12th
- ~ May 15th is Straw Hat Day
- ~ Penny Toss Anyone? Lucky Penny Day is May 23rd
- ~ REMEMBERING on Memorial Day May 29th

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Health & Safety Section

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

Considerations in Playground Safety Surfacing

Submitted by: Marissa Bauer, Safety First Playground Maintenance

Many of us are well on our way to beginning our summer projects, and it is important to not forget about your playgrounds! Choosing an appropriate safety surfacing is one of the most important decisions you can make for your playgrounds. Falls are the most common cause of injury on playgrounds, and appropriate safety surfacing is an effective way of reducing playground-related injuries in your students. When in the planning phase of a new playground, or during annual maintenance, there are important questions you should ask prior to choosing the surfacing that is the best fit for your school.

First, we need to define some key terms:

Unitary surfacing: Mats, tiles or poured-in-place

Loose-fill surfacing: Engineered wood fiber, rubber mulch, pea rock, sand, wood mulch

Fall height: the vertical distance between a designated play surface and the playground surface beneath it.

Critical height: a measure of the impact attenuation performance of a playground surface or surfacing materials; approximates the maximum fall height from which a life-threatening head injury would not be expected to occur.

Second, consider the intended age groups using the playground. For toddlers and children aged 2-5 who are crawling or likely to put loose fill surfacing in their mouth, a unitary surface may be your best option. For older children, where event fall heights may exceed 10 feet, a surfacing with superior impact attenuation, or critical height, should be considered.

The next question involves identifying **what material is appropriate for fall heights on your playground.** The distance between your highest platform, or designated play surface, to the ground may exclude certain types of surfacing. In addition, the depth of the surfacing itself must be considered in determining the critical height. For example, pea rock with a depth of nine inches is a compliant surfacing for fall heights under five feet. The manufacturer of the surfacing material should be able to provide you with ASTM test data identifying the critical height of their product.

Accessibility should also be a factor when choosing surfacing. Unitary surfaces are generally considered accessible to wheel chairs, as is engineered wood fiber. Manufacturers and suppliers should be able to supply information regarding the accessibility of their surfacing.

Continued on Page 6



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Considerations in Playground Safety Surfacing (Continued from Page 5)

Up-front costs vs maintenance costs are also an important consideration. Unitary surfaces can be considerably more expensive than loose-fill surfaces. Loose-fill surfaces may require more maintenance in raking or top-dressing the material periodically. You may also want to consider repair costs of damaged unitary surfacing, or equipment damaged by loose fill surfacing. Cracking can occur in poured in place surfaces, and pea rock can cause damage to vacuums if dragged inside by children.

You should also inquire about the **lifespan of your surfacing material**. Some unitary surfaces may lose some of their impact attenuation during their lifetime. Some wood mulch products are made from whole trees and contain materials like leaves and bark. This can lead to early decomposition. In addition, not all wood fibers are the same. Certain wood fibers, like tamarack, are naturally resistant to rot and decay, whereas other wood fibers are susceptible to decomposition and mold.

Toxicity and potential adverse health effects of some surfacing materials have recently gained attention by the media and parent organizations. Recycled rubber has had controversy regarding its long-term safety, leading some schools to remove it from their playgrounds. When choosing loose-fill surfacing it is important to know what is in the surfacing, and if the material has been exposed to anything potentially harmful to children. For example, some wood mulch marketed as a playground surfacing option may be made from wood products exposed to chemicals, such as wood pallets. Other wood fibers may be manufactured using all parts of the tree and have sticks that can cause injury to children.

No matter what surfacing is right for your playgrounds, don't forget to plan for it when installing a new playground or during annual maintenance.

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MASMS Strategic Planning Meeting Held Every 3 Years!

MASMS held a strategic meeting on April 7th. This planning session is held every 3 years. This year all chapter leadership and committee chairs were invited to the event.

The outlook and direction for MASMS was discussed and below are the goals that were outlined for the next three years. When final action steps for each goal are finished, they will be published in this newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend this meeting and for their valuable input.



Executive, chapter and committee team that worked on the three year strategic plans.

Three year overall MASMS goals developed at the strategic planning meeting:

- Goal 1: Review and update the MASMS bylaws.
- Goal 2: Increase educational member engagement at MASMS through diversified communication strategies over the next three years.
- Goal 3: Increase educational opportunities for current and future leaders.
- Goal 4: To increase our membership in general and member diversity specifically, every year.



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Attendees at the First Meeting of the MASMS West Central Chapter

Newsletter Articles

MASMS is accepting articles for the 2017 Newsletters. Articles received before the 25th of each month will be considered for the following months publication. If we have too many articles, they will be held and used in an upcoming month.

Please email them to: ruth@masms.org

Monarch butterflies start returning to Minnesota in mid-May!



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7 Habits That Make Your Brain Work Better

In a hyper-competitive world overflowing with information, our brains need to be able to keep up and outpace our competitor. Who does not want their brain to process faster, remember more information or be able to come up with solutions to complex problems? Cogito ergo sum. I think therefore I am. Our brains more or less define our existence and who we are. So how can we get our brains to work better, faster and more efficient?

There are 7 habits that will help improve brain function. Watch for each of them in the upcoming MASMS newsletters.

#1 ~ A GOOD NIGHTS SLEEP

Getting a good night's sleep can help you integrate experiences and learning you experienced throughout the day and increase the retention of information. Your brain replays events from the day and helps commit them to memory during sleep. Lack of sleep inhibits brain function and slows down your thinking and ability to retrieve memories. Sleeping helps you feel refreshed and focus on solving complex problems without the fog of mental exhaustion.



Legislature Update

As you read this update, I am hopeful that the 2017 Legislature has moved closer to finishing its Session. And by "finishing," I mean that by the May 22nd adjournment date, all state government finance bills have been passed - otherwise we will head to Special Session. The absolute deadline is July 1st, when the new two-year budget must be signed into law, or a government shutdown will occur.

The Omnibus K-12 Finance bill is one of the most contentious bills: the Governor has sent a detailed letter of concern to the Committee Chairs, highlighting his priorities. Now if they can sync up their various priorities, we can finish in an orderly fashion. A school finance workgroup remains under consideration and Facilities funding will be an important part of the interim work plan.

Two other issues remain on the table:

1. A crumb rubber moratorium for athletic fields and playgrounds until July 1, 2020.
2. Beginning October 1, 2017, each public school must enter and maintain monthly utility consumption data for all buildings.

And, of course, the K-12 bill provides the core funding for Facilities for the next two years.

I will provide members an end of Session recap - when we end.

Randy Morris, MASMS Lobbyist

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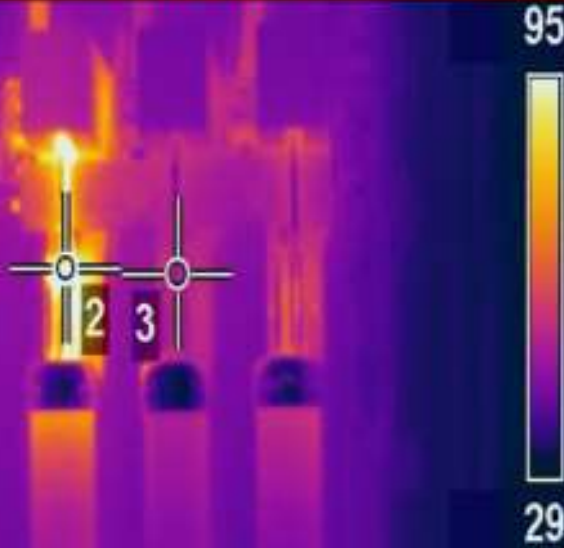
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WHEN FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION

Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities Case Studies Webinar Series

3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools

The EPA is hosting a quarterly webinar series to highlight examples of efforts to reduce lead in drinking water in schools and child care facilities.

For more information regarding the webinars, please contact:
banks.victoria@epa.gov

To view resources and for more information, please see EPA's Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities page:
<https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/drinking-water-schools-and-childcare-facilities>

MASMS OFFICE

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Contact the MASMS office at
ruth@masms.org if you would like to find a MASMS mentor!