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**MACTE September 2023 Newsletter**

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# September 2023 Newsletter

Welcome to the MACTE Newsletter for the 2023-2024 academic year! This newsletter is sent once a month during the academic year to update the MACTE community about collaborative work, MACTE events, and information and opportunities relevant to teacher preparation in Minnesota.

## MACTE Updates

### Fall Conference Keynote Speaker Announced

MACTE is excited to welcome Sabrina Winkelman as our fall keynote speaker! Sabrina has extensive experience as a teacher, coach, and consultant specializing in Social and Emotional Learning with [Toward Transformation](#). She recently completed a grant-funded initiative with the Minnesota Department of Education where she developed multiple publicly available SEL resources, including the [Adult Transformative SEL and the Standards of Effective Practice Toolkit](#). Sabrina will be addressing MACTE attendees on Friday, October 27, introducing us to the SEL tools available through MDE and how they can be used in teacher preparation.

**Register Now for MACTE's Fall Meeting & Conference!**

Join your peers at the Crowne Plaza on [October 26-27, 2023 for our fall collaboration!](#)

**The Fall Meeting and Conference will be MACTE's only in-person event this year as we continue our new practice of holding Winter and Spring events online. We hope that as many members as possible will join us at the Crowne Plaza!**

This fall our conference will be particularly important, with many items being discussed both Thursday and Friday that will have lasting impacts on Teacher Preparation Programs in the state. The schedule will include:

Thursday:

- Focus on new funding opportunities in Minnesota provided by recent legislation
- PELSB updates
- Draft proposal from MACTE representatives on PELSB's Assessment and Accountability Taskforce (Presentation of Proposal and Feedback)
- New MACTE business and staffing proposals from the executive committee.
- Extended caucus meeting for consideration of new proposals
- Role-alike and special interest groups

Friday:

- Social and Emotional Learning Keynote Speaker
- Collaborative worktime focused on new SEP implementation
- Break-out session addressing:
  - MACTE's early reading methods project (videos and supplementary methods materials)
  - Apprenticeship models for teacher preparation
  - Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Come get updates on all things teacher preparation related and build connections with your colleagues across Minnesota!

Registration is \$110/person per day. A room block is available at a discounted \$121 rate. When making reservations, please call IHG Central Reservations at 1-855-914-1303 or the Crowne Plaza hotel directly at 763-559-6600 and request the MACTE 2023 Fall Conference block to receive the discounted group rate. [Room reservations may also be made online.](#)

[Register for the Fall Conference](#)

## Literacy Event and Guest Speaker, Thursday Evening of Fall Conference

At our fall conference, MACTE will be co-hosting a professional development event for literacy professors and other MACTE conference attendees. Twenty-nine MACTE professors representing twenty-two institutions have been participating in a book study focused on scientifically based reading instruction. The book group will be meeting for an hors d'oeuvres reception and to listen to a presentation by [Pani Kendeou](#), University of Minnesota Distinguished McKnight Professor and Guy Bond Chair in Reading at the Crowne Plaza on the Thursday evening of the MACTE conference. Dr. Kendou studies reading comprehension. Her presentation will explore the cognitive processes that support the multiple components of reading comprehension. MACTE conference attendees staying Thursday to Friday are welcome to join the reception and listen to Dr. Kendou's address.

## Save the Date: MACTE Winter and Spring Virtual Conference Dates Announced

MACTE will again be holding its Winter and Spring conferences online. The Winter conference and collaboration will take place on February 9, 2024. The spring conference is scheduled for April 5, 2024. We look forward to seeing you all on Zoom!

## New MACTE Staffing to be Proposed at Fall Conference

After multiple conversations among current and retiring executive committee members, as well as with deans and directors, MEC is preparing a proposal to share with the full MACTE membership at the fall conference that will create a new MACTE executive director. Like the legislative liaison and executive assistant, the executive director position will be part time.

MACTE President Darrell Stolle summarized the reasons behind this initiative in June to the executive committee, saying "This was one of the priorities I wanted to move forward when I agreed to serve as president. I believe a position such as this will make us more agile in responding to emerging issues

that impact our programs - something that has become increasingly important given the legislative and policy pressures we now face.”

Full details of this proposal will be given at the fall conference, and Institutional Representatives will vote on the funding for the new staffing models after the fall business meeting.

Drawing on savings that have accumulated over the pandemic, the MACTE Executive Council has decided to create an Interim Executive Director position to serve through the end of the calendar year. MEC is happy to announce that Cari Maguire has agreed to fill this interim role. After the fall business meeting, if the funding proposal is approved by MACTE institutional representatives, a search for the permanent executive director will be held.

## **MACTE Early Reading Methods Grant Materials Available this Fall**

Last year, MACTE applied for and received a grant from National AACTE to develop materials to support the teaching of early reading methods, especially phonemic awareness and phonics. A small group of MACTE faculty have been working in collaboration with ServeMinnesota to prepare classroom videos and supporting learning materials that will be available to all MACTE members to use in their early reading methods courses. The materials will be introduced at the fall conference. If you are unable to attend the conference but would like information about this project please contact Cari Maguire ([maguire@umn.edu](mailto:maguire@umn.edu)).

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# **Legislative Updates**

## **Looking ahead to the 2024 Session**

The 2024 legislative session will begin February 12, 2024. Laura Mogelson will serve as our Legislative Liaison again for the 2023-2024 year. At our upcoming fall conference, we will review the draft of legislative priorities for the 2024 session. The main categories of our advocacy are:

- Paid student teaching
- Special education teacher licensure
- Increasing the diversity of Minnesota’s teachers

- Maintaining high quality standards
- Reading teacher preparation

We know that Special Education and tiered licensure will be an early topic of discussion in the House and Senate, with possible early legislative action. It is a controversial issue connecting to the shortage of special education teachers and the need for compliance with federal regulations. In May, the US Department of Education's Office of Special Education (OSEP) alerted MDE regarding concerns with our tiered licensure system. MDE submitted a corrective action plan that was accepted by OSEP. Read the [MDE press release](#) and [press coverage](#).

## **MN Special Education Teacher Pipeline Grant**

In June, [Laura presented a summary of the 2023 Legislative Session](#) to MACTE Deans and Directors. Later this summer the FY23 Grow Your Own (GYO) grant recipients and the FY23 Collaborative and Urban and Greater Minnesota Educators of Color (CUGMEC) grant recipients were determined. The GYO grant program is administered by MDE and the funding goes to school districts working to address teacher shortages through pathways for youth and for adults. The CUGMEC grant is administered by PELSB and the funding goes to institutions of higher education.

## **MN Special Education Teacher Pipeline Grant**

The Minnesota Department of Education held an info session in August for the new Special Education Teacher Pipeline Grant FY24. This is similar to Grow Your Own and the request for proposals will be available in early fall. Districts apply for this funding with teacher preparation partner(s). [There is a link to the slides from the information session here](#).

Following this meeting, we offered to create a directory for districts to use to find out more information about approved Special Education programs when they are developing their proposals and budgets. Here is a [link to the directory is here](#) (request edit access to fill in information).

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# **Resources and Opportunities**

## **Service Learning Example and Information Opportunity**

Presentation by Tal Anderson, director, Manager, Community Initiatives, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency.

Anderson will explain the Challenge Grant Program, which allows high schools to apply for up to \$100,000 to create a program in which high school students learn construction skills as they build a home for a low-income family or a family experiencing homelessness. More than \$45 million is in the pool of money to be distributed - so there is a decent chance some schools will receive these funds, along with other organizations working to help provide affordable housing in their communities. Schools can apply in partnership with other organizations. The RFP will be issued first quarter, 2024 but we are doing this webinar now to:

- a. Help educators understand the RFP and what they could do this fall to get ready to apply
- b. What are some lessons learned from other schools that have done this
- b. Identify some of the things that MHFA will look for in the application.

**When: Oct 23, 3-4 PM**

To register for the zoom meeting, please send an email by Oct 16 to [joe@centerforschoolchange.org](mailto:joe@centerforschoolchange.org). On registration, we will send the zoom connecting information.

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## **AACTE Updates**

### **Annual Meeting Registration is Open - February 16-18**

Ascending New Heights: Propelling the Profession into the Future aligns the AACTE 2024 Annual Meeting with the association's vision and mission to revolutionize education for all learners by elevating education and educator preparation through research, professional practice, advocacy, and collaboration. Representing the institutions and programs that prepare the greatest number of professional educators in the United States and its territories, and in partnership with international colleague organizations, AACTE

is the incubator for bold ideas and new discoveries to drive impactful applications based on evidence-based reasoning. [Register today.](#)

## Topical Action Groups

Topical Action Groups (TAGs) provide a forum for individuals drawn together by a common interest or purpose within the field of educator preparation. AACTE provides TAGs with operational funds, publicity, online meeting and administrative space, staff support, meeting space at the AACTE Annual Meeting, and the prestige of AACTE affiliation. TAGs are initiated, organized, and managed by participants, yet approved and overseen by the AACTE president/CEO. They generally focus on matters that a segment of the membership deems to be important to the state of educator preparation. Learn more about [Topical Action Groups](#).

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# PELSB Updates

## Changes to Teacher Licensure

The 2023 Legislative Session ended on May 22. A number of statutory changes were made that impact teacher licensure, including:

- [Exemptions to the content and pedagogy exams \(Tier 3 applicants\)](#)
- [Removal of basic skills examination and Minnesota-specific teaching experience \(Tier 4 applicants\)](#)
- [A new short-call substitute teaching pilot](#)
- [New exemptions from the bachelor's degree requirement for tiered licensure \(World Languages & Culture, Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, and Music\)](#)
- [New renewal requirement in American Indian History and Culture](#)

[Subscribe to PELSB's email listserv](#) to receive more updates in the coming weeks.

## Teacher Marketing & Outreach Campaign Grant Opportunity Now Available

The Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board requests proposals for the purpose of developing and implementing a marketing and

outreach campaign to elevate the teaching profession and recruit teachers, especially teachers of color and American Indian teachers, high school and college students who have not chosen a career path, and adults seeking to change careers (see [Laws of Minnesota 2023, chapter 55, article 5, section 65, subdivision 10](#)).

Application materials have been posted on [PELSB's Grants page](#). The timeline for application submissions is as follows:

- September 21, 2023: [Request for Proposals](#) and application materials posted on PELSB's website
- October 13, 2023: Applications are due by 4:30PM (CST)
- Late October: Awards notifications go out

For questions or more information, please contact Yelena Bailey ([Yelena.Bailey@state.mn.us](mailto:Yelena.Bailey@state.mn.us)) and use the subject line "TMOC - [Applicant Name]."



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