

Teacher Newsletter

m DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Important Dates

- June 1 - Teacher Newsletter Distributed
- June 4 - Fairmont Public School District
- June 12 - 22 - Training and Focus Groups around the state
- September 7 - Next Teacher Newsletter will be distributed

[Educator Data Training and Focus Groups](#)

Similar to last fall, Holly Pope will be traveling around the state conducting a FREE full-day training and focus group for the new teacher website (Testing 1, 2, 3). Although the website will not be fully completed, the demo site will be ready for feedback. In addition, Pearson will be joining MDE at the workshop to gather feedback on the redesign of the Benchmark Reports. Additional topics include a presentation of the Minnesota Report Card and the various reports generated with MCA data (Benchmark Reports, ISRs, and rosters).

Registration will be limited to the first 10 classroom teachers and first 10 non-classroom educators. Please reference the schedule below to see where the training and focus groups will be conducted in your region. Click on the location to register.

- [Roseville](#) - Tuesday, June 12 at the Radisson Hotel
- [Marshall](#) - Wednesday, June 13 at Southwest West Central Service Cooperative
- [North Mankato](#) - Thursday, June 14 at the South Central Service Coop
- [Rochester](#) - Friday, June 15 at Southeast Service Cooperative
- [Sartell](#) - Monday, June 18 at Resource Training and Solutions
- [Staples](#) - Tuesday, June 19 at the National Joint Powers Alliance
- [Fergus Falls](#) - Wednesday, June 20 at Lakes Country Service Cooperative
- [Thief River Falls](#) - Thursday, June 21 at Northwest Service Cooperative
- [Hermantown](#) - Friday, June 22 at Hermantown High School

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[Important Email Change](#)

Moving forward, Holly Pope (Brunson) has a new email: holly.pope@state.mn.us. Please ensure you make this email change on any saved preferences.

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A+ Education Conference

GTS Education Events will host the A+ Education Conference on Aug. 9 at the St. Paul Rivercentre. This is an all-day event focused on transforming systems and practice through the relevant use of assessment. Topics will include implementing ESSA with the new accountability indicators, building effective learning cultures, and promoting equity to meet the needs of all students. [Registration](#) is now open (www.mngts.org/aplus). Group discounts are available.

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Updated Contact Information for Minnesota State

For a table of Placement Score Ranges and information on how Minnesota State uses MCA scores, go to [Minnesota State's website](#) (minnstate.edu > System Office Divisions > Academic and Student Affairs > Student Affairs > Academic Readiness > how MCAs are used). Contact Pakou Yang, System Director for P-20 and College Readiness, at Minnesota State at pakou.yang@minnstate.edu with any questions.

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Summer Advisory Panelists Needed

As summer approaches, MDE needs more qualified teachers and community members for the MCA advisory panels. Summer is a great time for teachers to participate in an additional professional opportunity, and stipends and travel reimbursements are available. For more information about Advisory Panels and to submit or update your information to the Advisory Panel Registry, view the [Advisory Panels webpage](#) (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing > Register for Advisory Panels).

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SLEDS Research and Data Committee

The SLEDS Research and Data Committee is seeking additional K–12 members. The Committee is comprised of members from K–12, Postsecondary, and Workforce sectors. The group meets six

times per year for two hours, generally on the first Thursday afternoon in July, October, December, February, April, and June.

The main duties of committee members are as follows:

- Provide feedback on research requests and make recommendations for approval to the Executive Committee.
- Review communications products and new reports posted on the SLEDS mobile analytics site.
- Participate in discussions about data sources, P20W policies, and IT work.

If you work for a school or district and would be interested in participating, please email Kara Arzamendia at kara.arzamendia@state.mn.us.

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Data and Research Analyst Job Opening at MDE

MDE is hiring a data and research analyst to work on the following tasks:

- Manage, develop, and implement data and reporting options related to MDE data for use in agency-wide decision making.
- In collaboration with district curriculum/administration staff and MDE content specialists, develop processes for aligning data-driven decision making options with policy initiatives.
- Provide consultation and data analysis for state policy makers and local school districts on MDE research initiatives and program evaluation studies.

[Use this link to view full details and to apply](#), or visit the Minnesota Careers website (mn.gov/mmb/careers) and search for job ID 23675. The application deadline is June 8.

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Testing Terminology: Words of the Month

- **Alignment** - Alignment procedures examine the agreement or match between educational components such as test items and the Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards. To the extent that test items are aligned with these standards, student performance on one can be considered a measure of the other.
- **Content Area** - Subject area (for example, reading, writing, language arts, mathematics, social studies or science).

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Statewide Testing's Mission

To design, develop, and implement a system of assessment so Minnesota students, parents, teachers, administrators, legislators and taxpayers will have access to valid and reliable data to support and improve education in Minnesota.



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