



Southeast
Service
Cooperative

Connections

May 2023

Knowledge Bowl News

P2



Leadership Skills Session

P3



STEM Educator
of the Year Named

P10



Thriving Together

Five Southeast Minnesota Knowledge Bowl Teams Compete at State

The top 48 teams, out of over 1000 across the state, competed at the Minnesota Service Cooperatives' State Knowledge Bowl Meet held at Cragun's Resort near Brainerd on April 13-14.

The State Champions are:
Parkers Prairie - A Division
Melrose – AA Division
Owatonna – AAA Division



Please [visit our website](http://www.ssc.coop) for more information

SE Regional Teams That Competed at State



Houston



Northfield Gold and Northfield Maroon



Rushford



Winona

We're so proud of these students!

It Never Gets Old - SSC Named a Best Place to Work for 11th Time!

Fifteen area southeast Minnesota companies were recently recognized as the "Best Places to Work" in Southeast Minnesota for 2023. SSC was one of the recipients in the small employers category.

SSC's Executive Director Steve Sallee shared that "This award means a lot to all of us at SSC. We work hard to maintain a positive work culture with an emphasis on a family and work-life balance. I strongly believe that employees who are part of a team and can manage stress levels are more productive. We do our best to have fun and do whatever it takes to support our members."

The "Best Places to Work" awards program is a commissioned study by Workforce Development, Inc. The purpose of the program is to recognize some of



Workforce Development, Inc. Executive Director Jinny Reitmann, and SSC staff members Amy Grover, Nicole LaChapelle-Strumski, Sarah Ness, and Katie Hartman.

the best employers in our local area and provide vital information to companies about the practices they use to attract and retain employees.

Emotionally Intelligent Leadership Skills and Guiding Courageous Conversations

By Kari Kubicek



SSC is excited to offer a fantastic opportunity for individuals interested in growing their leadership skills and learning how to guide challenging conversations. This one-day workshop,

led by Agile Ideas Leadership facilitators Shannon Helgeson and Ross Herdina, will teach participants about emotional intelligence leadership styles, models of influence and conversation, and ways of implementing this knowledge to make a difference. Through an experiential learning model, individuals will learn, apply, and reflect on the tools that they can take back to their organizations that day.

This opportunity is geared towards individuals currently in or working towards a leadership position within their organization, whether it be a school district, local government agency, area business, or a non-profit.

During the *Emotionally Intelligent Leadership* portion of the day, participants will learn to:

- Explain the 6 styles of emotional intelligence leadership
- Identify their personal style and its relationship to influence
- Apply these styles in conversational context
- Build their personal impact and presence

Following the *Guiding the Conversations That Matter* portion of the day, participants will understand:

- How to set the stage for complex conversations on topics such as equity and feedback
- Useful structures for framing especially

About the Presenters



Shannon Helgeson

is a growth-focused coach and leader who builds teams and supports teachers in becoming learning facilitators who make real change in their schools and communities. Through a deep understanding of the

psychology of learning, she encourages participants to realize that the answers are already in the room, and they are often their own best source of professional development. With an emphasis on team collaboration and individual engagement, she moves teams from "going through the motions" to team buy-in and advocacy.



Ross Herdina

is a leadership development facilitator focused on building the skills of educators to be the leaders in their buildings and communities through training opportunities that focus on andragogy as a central practice to improving

learning experiences. His work as an instructional coach, literacy specialist, and leadership facilitator has led him to work with educators to improve leadership and professional development experiences. With a focus on developing systems and a dynamic leadership style, he creates processes that make tangible change.

challenging conversations

- How to facilitate rather than lead - balancing the dynamics of power
- How to design conversations with the end in mind

Click [here](#) to register!

Top Young Welders Compete in First Annual Competition

By Sarah Ness

On April 26, 118 southeast Minnesota high schoolers competed in the SE MN Welding Competition. The top 26 welders were celebrated with prizes to help them continue on their journey in welding and the trades. The top three student welders were Aidan Beckstrom, Kasson-Mantorville Public Schools, Toby Holtz, Austin Public Schools, and Brennen Larsen, Byron Public Schools.

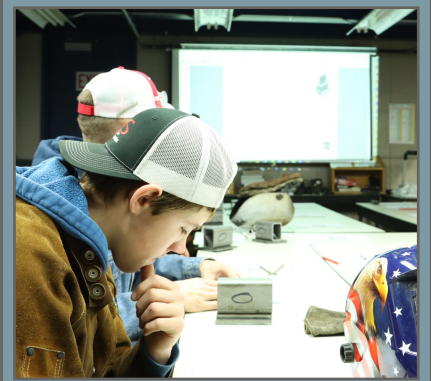
"The welding industry is experiencing a significant shortage of skilled workers. It is estimated that the US will need 30,000 more welders by 2025. That is why we organized this competition, to showcase the talents of our young welders and encourage them to pursue careers in this important field." said Nick Wobig, Southeast Service Career Navigator.

In addition, students attended a career fair and panelist presentations, experienced industry recognized welding equipment on a college campus, and networked with companies looking for future workers. A surprise competition was held between 13 advisors and educators who brought students. They were asked to complete the same weld as students in the competition. Top honors went to Ryan Stanley from Austin Public Schools.

Thanks to event partners and sponsors for creating this fun event! This event was sponsored by Silver Sponsors Ziegler Cat, Rochester Community and Technical College, McNeilus Steele, Inc., Crenlo, and Mississippi Welding Supply Company. Bronze Sponsors included SE MN Building and Construction Trades Council, and ValleyCraft. Gold sponsors included Southeast Service Cooperative.



Career fair door prize winner!



Reading the design challenge renderings in preparation for the weld.



Competitor with completed weld.



Educators reading renderings of the weld for the surprise adult competition.

And the Winner Is...

By Sarah Ness

The Hormel Institute has been named “Industry Partner of the Year” by Southeast Service Cooperative and Workforce Development, Inc. This award recognizes Southeast Minnesota partners that demonstrate a commitment to promoting K-12 learning about careers and technical skills, along with supporting and collaborating with local school districts to offer educational opportunities.



Hormel – Winner & Austin Public Schools – Nominee

The event included a labor market update, examples of work taking place around the region with support from the Career Navigator positions, and the announcement of the Industry Partner of the Year. District leaders nominated eight businesses based on the criteria of having demonstrated a dedication to working with students to



All nominees and winners in attendance.

provide the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experiences students need to succeed in today’s workforce. The Hormel Institute was nominated by IJ Holton Intermediate School and Ellis Middle School Principal Dewey Schara for the Institute’s efforts to promote Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) education in the Austin school district.

Seven additional area employers were nominated and celebrated at the outstanding Industry of the Year Awards that took place on Friday, April 14th at Wood Lake Meeting Center. These industry partners include FlexCraft, Harmony Enterprises, Innovance, Lax Fabricating, Mayo Clinic, McNeilus Steel, and Midwest Ag Electric Inc. Southeast Service Cooperative, Workforce Development, Inc., and area K-12 school districts are very appreciative of your commitment to this work.

CPC Paper Sale!

CPC’s 2023 Paper Program is now live! This year we’re offering Boise X-9 and Xerographic brands for white copy paper as well as miscellaneous white papers!

There are two ways to order:

Order online through **Express** ([sign-in here](#))

Download, fill-out, and email back a [2023 Cut Paper Order Form](#)

Order by June 1st to receive your order before July 1.

Order by July 14th to receive your order after July 1.

All orders must be returned to CPC – whether through Express or by email – to guarantee pricing.



Reach out to CPC! Email us at info@purchasingconnection.org or call us at 888-739-3289.

Office of English Language Acquisition Project Director Meeting

This April, Dr. Ashley Karlsson and Dr. Kendra Katnik attended the annual Project Directors Meeting hosted by the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA) in Washington, D.C. Ashley and Kendra are part of the SSC Project MOMENTUM team which is funded by a National Professional Development Grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

During the three-day meeting, Deputy Secretary of Education Cindy Marten and Assistant Deputy Secretary and Director of OELA Monterrat Garibay spoke to grantees about the U.S. Department of Education 'Raise the Bar: Lead the World' initiative. In particular, meeting keynotes highlighted a focus on creating pathways for global engagement and advancing strategies for promoting academic excellence, including a pathway to multilingualism for every student.

Ashley and Kendra were joined by Dr. Edith Gozali-Lee of Wilder Research, the external evaluator for Project MOMENTUM. The Project MOMENTUM team has been working closely to engage in an initial planning and implementation process to build out micro-credential courses for Minnesota educators and establish a plan to evaluate their effectiveness.



The OELA meeting included Project Directors and key team members from the both 2021 and 2022 National Professional Development grants. In addition to sessions on teacher retention and recruitment and grant management, grantees also had the opportunity to learn and share with each other about their respective projects around developing teacher expertise and sustaining family engagement.

“There is a lot of great work being done across the country to advance strengths-based approaches to teacher preparation and language programming”, Ashley said. “We were excited to be able to connect with other leaders and scholars in the field of language development, and we look forward to future opportunities for collaboration.”

The first set of Project MOMENTUM courses are expected to launch in Fall 2023. For more information and updates on the work of Project MOMENTUM, visit www.sscprojectmomentum.org or reach out to Dr. Ashley Karlsson at akarlsson@ssc.coop.



Edith Gozali-Lee, Ashley Karlsson and Kendra Katnik

Mental Health Awareness

By Cheryl Wendt

Did you know that May is Mental Health Awareness Month? The Center for Disease Control, along with the World Health Organization, define mental health as “our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make healthy choices.”

SSC is dedicated to helping members and organizations address mental health for staff, students and the community. This is done in a variety of ways, including the sharing of ideas and resources to promote positive mental health, and in offering how to identify and address mental health challenges.

With the extension of the MDH School Health Grant to June 2024, SSC is excited to offer more opportunities for professional



Cheryl Wendt

development and support in the area of mental health. A menu of options for members and organizations to take advantage of at reduced rates through the grant funding will be available, and these items will be offered on site at the Southeast Service Cooperative or at members' locations. Some of the possible training opportunities will include Youth Mental Health First Aid, Trauma-informed, resilience

work, and suicide prevention programming such as Question-Persuade-Refer (QPR).

SSC remains dedicated to providing quality service to our members, partners, and local organizations. If you have specific needs (professional development, consultation, etc.) related to the area of mental health, please reach out to Cheryl Wendt, School Social Worker Regional Coordinator, for assistance.

Upcoming Training Opportunity

SSC, with support from MDH, is offering a free Youth Mental Health First Aid Training on June 13. Learn more on the next page!

SE MN School Crisis Response Team Recruitment

By Kari Kubicek

We have seats available for individuals interested in serving on the SE MN School Crisis Response Team (SCRT). SCRT team members will be trained to respond and make decisions objectively, counsel groups and support individuals to assist in restoring the emotional well-being of the school during a crisis.

The SE Regional School Crisis Response Team will consist of trained, experienced professionals who will provide support, guidance

and resources to SE MN schools and their communities in a crisis situation. Team members can be school administrators, guidance counselors, psychologists, social workers, teachers, nurses, security experts, media relations professionals, and individuals from other related areas.

Members of the SE MN SCRT will be required to participate in an initial two-day Managing School Crisis Training, designed to introduce the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) framework and specific



intervention techniques that can easily be applied with the school setting, followed by one regional training per year. The two-day Managing School Crisis Training is scheduled for August 2-3, 2023, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at SSC's Woodlake Meeting Center.

If interested in serving on the SE MN School Crisis Response Team, please contact Kari Kubicek at SSC.



Mental Health FIRST AID
from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL WELLBEING

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

LEARN HOW TO SUPPORT THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adolescents ages 12-18. You'll build skills and confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to young people who are struggling. You'll also learn how to help connect them to appropriate support.

AFTER THE COURSE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO:

- Recognize common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders and attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD).
- Recognize common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges.
- Understand how to interact with a young person in crisis.
- Know how to connect a young person with help.
- Better understand trauma, substance use, self-care and the impact of social media and bullying.

Join the more than

2.6 MILLION

*First Aiders who
have chosen to be
the difference in
their community.*

REGISTER TODAY!

Delivery Format:

In-Person at the Southeast Service Cooperative in Rochester

Date and Time:

June 13, 2023 from 8:00 AM-4:30 PM

Location:

210 Wood Lake Drive SE, Rochester, MN 55904

Where to Register:

www.ssc.coop, under the Events tab

Learn how to respond with the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan (**ALGEE**):

- A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm.
- L**isten nonjudgmentally.
- G**ive reassurance and information.
- E**ncourage appropriate professional help.
- E**ncourage self-help and other support strategies.



**Southeast
Service
Cooperative**

For more information, visit MHFA.org

STEM Forward

That's a Wrap! A Lookback on 2022-2023

By Sarah Ness

30 organizations worked in collaboration to promote STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) excellence in K-12 schools and create a future workforce equipped with the knowledge, skills, and mindset they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

STEM Forward is now accepting participation agreements for the 2023-2024 school year.

FAQ

Who can be involved in STEM Forward?

Anyone! STEM Forward welcomes organizations from education, city/county government, non-profits, and industry who have a vested interest in shaping the systems that work with youth and our future workforce.

What is the value of STEM Forward to my district/institution/organization?

STEM Forward provides a regional vehicle and voice to statewide STEM conversations and opportunities while connecting regional multi-sector STEM partners to share best practices, scale and enhance resources, and build partnerships for a more connected and strategic SE MN STEM community.

Ecosystem Engagement 2022-2023 School Year

Spring Educator Forum (4/12/23)

88 Net Promoter Score | 50 Educators Attended | 8 Presenters | 4 TechFest Vendors | 3 Future Educator Career Fair Schools

This event's focus was on artificial intelligence in education and the resources available to leverage this disruptive technology for efficiency and innovation. Educators met with TechFest vendors and learned about resources available for summer camps and in and out-of-school learning. 12 Winona State University undergraduate and graduate students networked and interviewed with K-12 school districts looking to hire STEM teachers and student-teachers.



WSU Professor Bryan Matera and students attending the Future Educator Career Fair.



Panelist Joel Crandall from Minnesota High Tech Association and Burke Egner from Albert Lea Public Schools on Artificial Intelligence in Education.



Jen Hegna from Byron Public Schools leading the session: Using Chat GPT for Classroom Efficiency and Innovation.

Attendees' feedback from the event:

- *Learned a lot. I didn't know what to expect at all. This exceeded my expectations.*
- *AI is super new to me so the dialogue really helped me learn! Thank you!*
- *I enjoy STEM Forums and it motivates me to try more STEM activities*
- *These ideas apply to many areas.*
- *The breakouts were awesome. I can take the resources back and have staff implement them within minutes!*
- *Useful and accessible information. Very relevant!*
- *I loved the tables with people with ideas and products. I have a lot of great ideas for my classroom/school from the presenters.*
- *Good information for enhancing our teaching. These are good tools that help save us time and be more effective with our students.*
- *Amazing Presenters. Well organized! Great conversations!*
- *I loved learning new things from people who actually use them in education. The examples were helpful.*

Fall Educator Forum (11/9/22)

61 Net Promoter Scores | 45 Educators Attended | 12 Presenters

This article is continued on the next page.

STEM Forward continued from previous page.

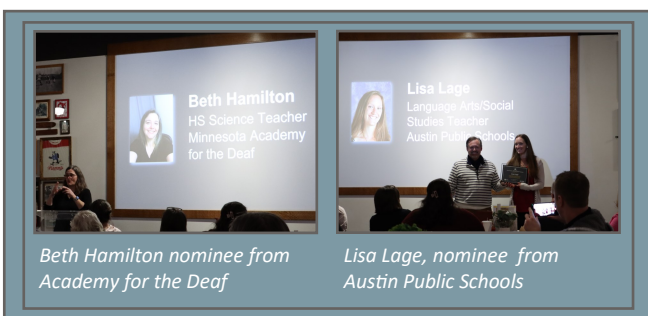
4 Full Advisory Meetings

5 Meetings | 13 Best Practices & Resource Presentations by:

- **Changing Our Mental Model on The Purpose of STEM Education & Preparing the Future Workforce** | Presented by STEM Forward Executive Committee
- **It's Happening! The Founding of a MN STEM Ecosystem** | Presented by Kari Denisen Cunnien, Ignite Afterschool
- **Free Computer Science & IT Opportunities & Resources** | Presented by IT Center of Excellence
- **STEM Innovation Presentation: IJ Holten** (Innovation in Middle Schools) | Presented by Austin Public Schools
- **STEM Innovation Presentation: A Glance at Kingsland Public Schools** | Presented by Kingsland Public Schools
- **The State of Computer Science** | Presented by Sarah Carter, Computer Science & STEM Integration Specialist at MDE
- **ESports Leagues for SE MN** | Presented by STEM Fuse
- **STEM Innovation Presentation: At Glance at Cannon Falls Public Schools** | Presented by: Cannon Falls Public Schools
- **STEM Signing Day Partnership with KTTC** | Presented by KTTC & STEM Forward
- **STEMing with Media: More than just books** | Presented by Tami Rhea, Dover-Eyota Media Specialist & Janeen Perrizo, St. Charles Media Specialist
- **The Relationship Between CTE & STEM Education** | Presented by Brian Cashman, Secondary Southeast Perkins Consortia Coordinator & Sarah Ness, SSC
- **Million Girl Moonshot Grant Invitation (2023-2024)** | Presented by Joseph Adamji, Minnesota Science Museum

Outstanding Educator Awards

13 Nominations | 1 Award Winner | 60 Attendees



Thirteen Southeast Minnesota educators were nominated for the 2022-23 Outstanding Educator Award. The award recognizes K-12 professionals who strive toward the highest levels of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) excellence within their schools and community.

This year's nominees were: Bonn Clayton, Rochester Public Schools | Katie Donlin, Jacob Findlay, Jordan Lee, Marcus Leloux, Jeremy Daggett, Byron Public Schools | Stephanie

Foss, Zumbrota-Mazeppa Public Schools | Beth Hamilton, Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf | Lisa Lage, Jessica Stanley, Ryan Stanley, Austin Public Schools | Gregory Sullivan, Owatonna Public Schools | Amanda Thompson, Cannon Falls Public Schools.



Jacob Findlay was named the 2022-2023 Outstanding Educator of the Year. In the past four years at Byron High School, Findlay has taught several classes including Physical Science, Chemistry, Basic Electricity, Conceptual Physics, Post High School Planning, Intro to Engineering, and Digital Electronics.

Byron High School Principal, Malia Schroeder said, "Mr. Findlay has worked tirelessly over his tenure at Byron to improve many of our systems and courses within the science, careers, and engineering fields."

Free STEM Kits for Schools "Destination Mars 2021-22" (Grade 5) 28 Elementary Buildings

- In Partnership with: Sarah Carter, MDE & STARBASE
- 5th Grade curriculum, materials and MN state standards alignment

Join Now to Be Part of These Upcoming Opportunities!

Full Advisory Meeting in June 2023 @ Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Hosted by the Career Awareness Department

Tours of the Mayo Clinic training facilities and the latest technology that we should be teaching in K-12 schools.

Grant & Partnership Opportunity

In partnership with Minnesota Science Museum and Ignite Afterschool

Help get more girls and BIPOC students engaged in STEM learning opportunities through Million Girl Moonshot and out-of-school time partners.

STEM Village

In partnership with Dover-Eyota Public Schools, Winona State University, and Minnesota Science Museum

This lending library of technology and curriculum is being reimaged to explore best practices and possible resources to make available to southeast Minnesota educators involved in STEM Forward.

[Download Participation Form](#)
to Join STEM Forward



Christi Fosland
Educational Support Coordinator

I grew up in Wykoff, Minnesota and graduated from Kingsland High school before earning my Bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.

I've worked in a number of Southeast Minnesota school districts over my nearly twenty year career as a secondary English teacher. My first "real" job was at Goodhue but my first "full time" was at Elgin-Millville (yes, before they joined with Plainview).

My husband and I did have a one year adventure in Arizona where I taught at Explorer Middle School of Technology in North Phoenix. After returning to the Midwest, I taught at Mayo High School in Rochester before joining Kasson-Mantorville for over eleven years.

My husband Josh and I have three teenage daughters who keep us busy with their activities. If I'm not at work or sleeping, I'm probably waiting for one my kids to finish a volleyball practice or play rehearsal. Right now we are starting to explore college and career options with them. When I do have free time, I enjoy baking, gardening, and purchasing craft supplies and fabric for projects that I hope to finish (someday, maybe). I am happiest with my toes in the sand and a good book in my hand.

I am excited to support SSC's educational programs and continue to build relationships with schools in our area.

SSC Awarded National Gold Recognition for the Workforce Well-being Scorecard

The American Heart Association has awarded Southeast Service Cooperative (SSC) national Gold level recognition for its commitments to employee health and well-being as measured in the Association's 2022 Workforce Well-being Scorecard™.

SSC was one of just three small employers in the nation to be awarded Gold level status.

The Scorecard evaluates factors such as mental health policies, organizational wellbeing strategies to address burnout, health equity measures, employee financial resources and more to provide a comprehensive assessment of an organization's culture of health.

Research has shown that supporting the mental and physical well-being of employees is vital to driving productivity, engagement and successful business outcomes. By investing in a culture of health in the workplace, organizations can improve employee retention and bolster their organizational reputation.

"We are honored to be recognized by the American Heart Association for our commitment to employee health and well-being and our continued efforts to promote equity," said SSC Executive Director, Steve Saltee. "SSC is dedicated to creating a culture that is safe, supportive, and provides opportunities for everyone to reach



American Heart Association.
 Well-being Works Better™



their full potential—in and out of the workplace."

The Workforce Well-being Scorecard is a key component of the Association's Wellbeing Works Better™ platform, which helps business leaders unleash the power of a healthy, happy workforce. For more information and a full list of recognized organizations, visit heart.org/workforce.

Congratulations Walking Challenge Winners!



*Local Government Steps
Winners Mower County*



*School District Steps AND
Participation Winners Wabasha-
Kellogg*



*Local Government Participation
Winners City of Byron*

Thanks to all of our member groups who participated in this year's challenge!

School District Members: Goodhue – 2nd Place, and Lewiston-Altura – 3rd Place. The remaining teams, which each received an honorable mention, are listed in the order of their ranking: Pine Island, Mahtomedi, Caledonia, Red Wing, Albert Lea, Triton, LeRoy-Ostrander, MN State Academies, Grand Meadow, Lake City, Cannon Valley Special Education Cooperative, and Southland Local Government Members: **City of Dodge Center** – 2nd Place, **Austin HRA** – 3rd Place. The honorable mention placements included: Workforce Development, Rice Steele 911 Center, Freeborn County, City of Albert Lea, and City of Byron.



**Southeast
Service
Cooperative**

Over 800 individuals from 23 SSC member organizations enjoyed competing in the 2023 SSC Member vs. Member Walking Challenge this January. If your organization would like to participate in next year's challenge, **contact** Nicole LaChapelle-Strumski. For more information, click [here](#).

Minnesota Boiler Operator's Special License Prep Course and Exam



By Kari Kubicek

Boiler operators are a key part of keeping our buildings functioning properly and safely. Working with boilers requires skill and extensive knowledge, which is why boiler operators in Minnesota must be licensed through the Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI). A certified boiler operator is responsible for maintenance and for performing routine tests and safety checks to ensure proper function and prevent serious boiler accidents from occurring.

IEA and SSC are hosting a Special Engineer Boiler License Training and Exam at SSC's Woodlake Meeting Center on Thursday, May 18, from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. This course is for individuals interested in obtaining a Minnesota Special Engineer license. Participants must register for the training course through SSC by clicking [here](#). Participants must apply for and register to take the exam through the [Department of Labor and Industry website](#) (DOLI) prior to the day of the training. Individuals will not be able to register for the exam on the day of the session.

The agenda for the day is as follows:

7:30 - 8:00 AM - Check-In and Refreshments
 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Special Engineer Boiler License review with Boiler Ben
 2:00 - 2:30 PM - DOLI exam sign-in (must be pre-registered to take the exam)
 2:30 - 5:00 PM - Exam (limited to 2.5 hours)



Ben Weekly, AKA Boiler Ben, will be facilitating the Special Engineer Boiler License review course. Ben is from Detroit Lakes, MN, and has been in the boiler operation business for over 35 years, operating boilers, both steam and hot water, during that time. After obtaining a Chief C Boiler license, Ben began teaching boiler operation classes in the 1990's and has since taught hundreds of operators in northern Minnesota and eastern North Dakota.

Textbook

It is highly recommended that each participant orders

and reviews the *Safe Boiler Operating Fundamentals: Special Engineer's Guide for the State of MN* textbook prior to attending this training.

Textbook Ordering Options:

[American Technical Publishers \(ATP\):](#)

\$112.00 plus shipping

[Amazon:](#)

\$112.00 plus free shipping (for Prime members)

Another option is to check your local library for the availability of this book or with your district as they may have obtained one for previous employee exams.

Exam

After the course review, attendees will be given the opportunity to take the exam immediately following the course (2:30-5:00 PM).

*Individuals are not required to participate in the training to take the exam. Those who choose to take the exam without participating in the training will need to arrive at the Southeast Service Cooperative's Wood Lake Meeting Center by 2:00 PM (must be pre-registered) on the day of the training and will not be charged the training fee.

To register for the training course, please click [here](#). To apply for and register to take the exam, go to the [Department of Labor and Industry website](#). For step by step instructions on registering for the exam, click [here](#).

Please contact Angie Radel at IEA at 507-281-6682 or angie.radel@ieasafety.com with questions.

Facilities Management Town Hall

SSC and IEA are co-hosting this free annual event on Tuesday, June 13, from 8:00 to 11:30 AM at SSC. Topics to be covered during the event include legislative and LTFM updates. Breakfast will be provided by our sponsor, Solar Connection.



Click [here](#) to register.

SSC Board Actions and Information

In addition to routine fiscal and business actions, the Board took the following actions in recent meetings. Complete SSC Board of Directors meeting minutes are available on the SSC website at www.ssc.coop.

February

- Approved the resignation of Kevin Cardille, effective end of day March 20, 2023.
- Approved the purchase of five welders from Mississippi Welders Supply for \$17,116 from Carl Perkins funds for Byron, Pine Island, Kasson-Mantorville and possibly one or two more of the schools in the ZED consortium.
- Approved a one-time payment of \$60,000 to Heartland Business Solutions to purchase the code and intellectual property rights for the DXC online registration system.

March

- Approved the hiring Christi Fosland as Educational Support Coordinator, effective 3/7/2023 and Emily Saed as is MN STEM Ecosystem Director, effective 4/14/2023.

- Approved the contract with Lexia Learning.

April

- Increased the minimum and maximum pay ranges by 2.6%.
- Adopted the recommended staff increase effective July 1, 2023.
- Approved the job description and posting for a Wood Lake Meeting Center Assistant.
- Accepted the amended motion for the resignation of the Executive Director of SEMNET.
- Approved the 2023-2024 fees.
- Approved the purchase of replacement of mics in the Cedar Room at Wood Lake Meeting Center.

Please **visit our website** for more information.

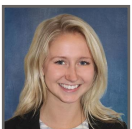
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Shaping the Future
for communities of leaders and learners

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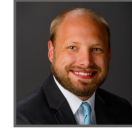
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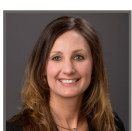
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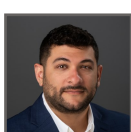
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