

# Cooperative Connection

May 2007

Southeast Service Cooperative

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*Adding value...  
maximizing resources*

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## Freshwater Society honors seven

The Freshwater Society honored seven student artists from southeastern Minnesota in a reception held at the Southeast Service Cooperative on April 25, 2007. These students were selected as regional semi-finalists out of 36 entries in the third annual Freshwater Society Art Contest. Co-founder Dick Gray was on hand to personally congratulate the artists.

The non-profit Society is sponsoring the contest, which provides scholarships to high school students who create an art project to reflect the contest theme, "Water is Life." The southeast Minnesota artists' submissions were unique and varied, and they display the



Just one example of the high quality artwork entered in the contest, this piece was created by Viktoriya Ishchuk of Rochester Mayo High School

creativity and effort of the students in our region.

These high school students from southeastern Minnesota were directed to sub-

**Freshwater continued on page 3**

## Cojocarú represents southeast Minnesota at National Spelling Bee

Catherine Cojocarú, a seventh-grader at Holy Spirit School in Rochester, won the 2007 Multi-Regional State Spelling Bee on March 22, 2007 in St. Cloud, correctly spelling "inaugurator" to ice the win. Cojocarú will be one of four spellers from Minnesota who will compete in May at the national event in Washington, D.C.

Cojocarú placed second at the Regional Spelling Bee, held at the SSC, which qualified her for the state contest in St. Cloud against 25 other students who won their contests sponsored by six educational Service Cooperatives across Minnesota. The Multi-Regional State Spelling Bee was sponsored by Forum Communications, Minnesota Timberwolves and the Minnesota Service Cooperatives.

The 80th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee is May 30-31. It gathers the winners from all of the state

competitions, moving them through initial rounds, including a written test, before the finals are televised nationally.

Congratulations Catherine and good luck in Washington, DC!



## Does your community have a “safe route” to schools?

By Suzanne Riley  
Executive Director

As we approach summer, I'm thinking more and more about two issues that are on the minds of everyone in our communities these days -- safety and health.

County and city officials want to ensure that public places in their communities and countrysides are safe. Schools are concerned that their facilities need to be safe and welcoming for students and community members. Together, local government and school officials are taking steps to support good health for everyone we serve. Pandemic flu planning is an example of the critical need for joint strategic planning among cities, counties, school districts, and other community leaders.

The obesity epidemic is another example. Here are some things to think about:

- On Feb 28, 2007, Governor Pawlenty said his goal is to reduce childhood obesity by 50% by 2012.
- We live in a snack culture.
- Reasons why physical activity is harder for kids today: worry about safety outside; cutting of physical activity programs in and after school; screen time increased; expensive afterschool sports.
- MN is one of three states that don't have Physical Education standards.
- In 2003 MN eliminated High School PE graduation requirements because of NCLB demands.
- 74% of American adults are overweight.
- A presenter at a recent Action on Obesity Summit said his eyeballs tell him that 1/2 to 2/3 of youth are overweight.
- Bariatric surgery costs upwards of 75k.

There's more information for you about childhood obesity at the following websites:

Institute of Education Sciences, US Department of Education,  
<http://nces.ed.gov/Pubs2006/nutrition/>

Institute of Medicine,  
<http://www.iom.edu/CMS/22593.aspx>

Minnesota Department of Health,  
<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/hpcd/chp/obesity/>

I'd like to suggest that our member schools, cities, and counties consider applying for Safe Routes to Schools funding to support initiatives that will get kids on the move. At least two county/city/school collaborations in southeast Minnesota have been awarded grants for students at La Crescent-Hokah and Kingsland School Districts. Congratulations to you!

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, created by the Federal Surface Transportation Act, establishes a grant program providing communities with the opportunity to improve conditions for bicycling and walking to school.

The goals of the program are threefold:

- 1) to enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- 2) to make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- 3) to facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

At present, fewer than 15% of children in grades K-8 walk or bike to school and nearly 50% of school aged children



are regularly driven to school by their parents. Coinciding with the declining numbers of children walking and biking to school is an increase in childhood obesity and Type II diabetes.

Using a multidisciplinary approach, the Safe Routes program works with schools, students, and parents at a grass roots level to identify improvements that will make biking and walking to and from school a routine part of Minnesota's students' experience.

The next solicitation for Safe Routes to School will be starting in late August 2007 to award the monies from Federal Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009. Based on current projections it is estimated that \$4 million will be made available under this solicitation. This will be the final solicitation for Safe Routes to School under SAFETEA – LU.

For more information about this program, visit  
[saferroutes@dot.state.mn.us](mailto:saferroutes@dot.state.mn.us)

Have a wonderful, safe and active summer, everyone!

## All Together Now!



Concerned about health care, the high cost of drugs, and the future of America's social safety net? AARP sees an answer if we work hand in hand.

*Some of us read AARP. Some of us don't think we need to read AARP and aren't sure what AARP stands for. On a hunch that most people reading this either do or should be reading AARP, because it really is full of very good advice for everyone who wants to live a secure, long life, I'm reprinting an article that talks about something that affects ALL of us: health care. If you can read, please read this.*

*Suzanne Riley, Executive Director, Southeast Service Cooperative*

## AARP Needs You Reprinted from AARP May/June 2007

AARP is leveraging its 38 million member presence and influence in every town, city, and state, joining with other powerful groups across the nation and putting every politician and political candidate on notice and on record as to how he or she supports Divided We Fall.

To start, AARP is concentrating on accomplishing the following goals:

- Access to affordable and quality health care, including prescriptions.
- Upfront and understandable explanations of health care costs so people know what they're paying for.

- Emphasis on prevention and wellness programs.
- A less wasteful health care system.

- Availability of tools and clear information to help manage finances and savings.

How to get involved:

1. Go to [www.dividedwefail.org](http://www.dividedwefail.org) to read about the AARP campaign.
2. While you're there, tell us your story and give us your thoughts about health care and retirement security. We'll share them with opinion leaders, politicians, and the media to bring home the point that now is the time for action.
3. Then take the pledge to support AARP's efforts toward ensuring quality health care and financial security for all of us. – Karen Westerbeg Reyes, AARP

## DividedWeFail.org

- Affordable long-term care so people can remain in their homes and communities.
- A strong Social Security system for the next generations, without raising the national debt.
- Financial incentives to encourage people to save for retirement.
- Access to effective retirement plans starting at an early age.
- Work opportunities for Americans of all ages.

### Freshwater from page 1

mit entries reflecting the theme. The artists were encouraged to "convey the importance, value, and beauty of water." Semi-finalists were chosen and advanced to the final competition.



Sarah Kraft, Dover-Eyota High School

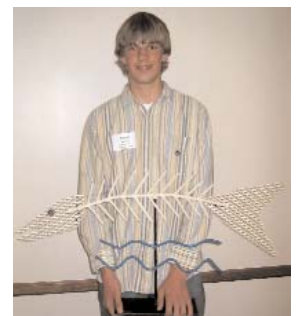
The award ceremony announcing the scholarship winners was held on May 9, 2007 at the Gray Freshwater Center on Lake Minnetonka (Excelsior, MN).

The following seven artists advanced to the final competition, which included a total of 24 Minnesota artists:

- Casey Asprey**  
Austin Public Schools
- Anna Burton**  
Austin Public Schools
- Ashley Huhe**  
Stewartville Public Schools
- Viktoriya Ishchuk**  
Rochester Mayo High School
- Julia Iverson**  
Kasson-Mantorville Public Schools
- Sarah Kraft**  
Dover-Eyota Public Schools
- Ryan Mehus**  
Spring Grove Public Schools

Finalists were eligible for three \$1,000 scholarships. All finalists were recognized at the event in Excelsior, MN on May 9th.

The Gray Freshwater Center will display the winning entries through August 2007.



Ryan Mehus, Spring Grove High School

Congratulations to all the participants!

## Senior High Knowledge Bowl teams compete for trip to State



The Minnesota Service Cooperative Knowledge Bowl competitions are interdisciplinary academic contests for students. The Senior High Knowledge Bowl is for students in grades 9-12.

During the contest, teams of students compete in written and oral rounds by answering questions related to all areas of learning, typical of secondary educational programs.

Questions test students' recall, problem solving, and critical thinking skills. This competition provides a format for student growth centered around academics. Teams consist of five students (five competing in the written round and four competing in each oral round).

This year, 82 teams from 31 districts participated in Senior High Knowledge Bowl. Teams are divided into Tier A and Tier AA districts. Teams competed in Round Robin competitions in December, January, and February.

Each team then competed in the Sub-Regional competition in March and the top twelve teams from each tier advanced to the Regional Competition, which took place on March 20 and 21 at the Southeast Service Cooperative in Rochester.

The Senior High Knowledge Bowl Sub-Regional competitions were held on March 6, 7, 13, and 14. The Tier AA Sub-Regional teams (and number of teams) were from: Austin (4), Kasson-Mantorville (7), LaCrescent (5), Northfield (3), Plainview-Elgin-Millville (4), Red Wing (4), Rochester Century (1), Rochester Mayo (4), and Winona (3).

The Tier A Sub-Regional teams were from: Caledonia (1), Cannon Falls (3), Chosen Valley (3), Dover-Eyota (2), Fillmore Central (3), Glenville-Emmons (3), Goodhue (3), Grand Meadow (1), Houston (2), Kasson-Mantorville (7), Kenyon-Wanamingo (3), Kingsland (3), Lanesboro (2), Leroy-Ostrander (1), Lewiston-Altura (1), Mabel-Canton (2), Pine Island (3), Rushford-Peterson (2), St. Charles (2), Southland (2), Spring Grove (2), Stewartville (1), and Triton (2).

The Senior High Knowledge Bowl Regional competition was held on March 20 and 21 at the Southeast Service Cooperative. The competition consisted of one written round (60 questions) and five oral rounds (45 questions/round). The 12 Tier AA Regional teams (and number of teams) included: Austin (1), Kasson-Mantorville (2), LaCrescent (1), Northfield (2), Rochester Mayo (3), Winona (3).

The 12 Tier A Regional teams (and number of teams) included: Cannon Falls (1), Dover-Eyota (1), Fillmore Central (2), Houston (1), Kenyon-Wanamingo (1), Pine Island (1), Rushford-Peterson (1), St. Charles (1), Southland (1), Spring Grove (1), and Stewartville (1).

Five teams advanced to the State Knowledge Bowl Meet at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd, MN, on April 17-18. The three Tier A teams included: Dover-Eyota 2, Houston 1, and Spring Grove 1. The two Tier AA teams include: Rochester Mayo White and Kasson-Mantorville 1.

These five teams put forth a solid performance at the State Meet and we would like to congratulate the team members and their advisors on their success!

### Senior High Knowledge Bowl Regional Winners

#### Tier A

- 1st - Dover-Eyota 2
- 2nd - Houston 1
- 3rd - Spring Grove 1
- 4th - Fillmore Central 1
- 5th - Cannon Falls 1

#### Tier AA

- 1st - Rochester Mayo Gold
- 2nd - Kasson-Mantorville 1
- 3rd - Northfield Gold
- 4th - Rochester Mayo White
- 5th - Austin Scarlet

### Knowledge Bowl History

Knowledge Bowl originated in 1976 as a project within a small educational service cooperative (San Juan Board of Cooperative Services) in Durango, Colorado. It began in response to a group of area student body leaders who asked if the organization would develop and host some kind of competitive academic activity involving excellent students.

The first meet held in Pagosa Springs involved just three high schools. Within two years, it evolved to include scores of invitational meets in addition to regional competitions and a Colorado state championship that has been held annually ever since.

The event soon attracted educators from Minnesota, Washington, and South Dakota who initiated the activity in their home states.





**Dover-Eyota 2** - Front Row (L to R): Nate Miller, Kelsie Fisch, Anna Baron, Back Row (L to R): Brandon Schmidt, Tom Theye (advisor), Travis Schreier



**Fillmore-Central 1** - (L to R): Brad Holten (advisor), Ally Lynne, Paula Skaggs, Jessica Moger, Neale Torgrimson, Will Sparks, Frank Tribon (advisor)

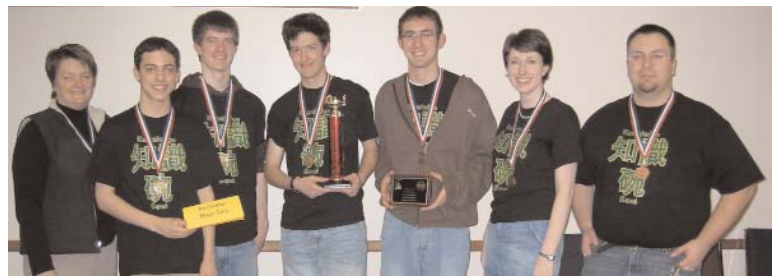


**Northfield Gold** - L to R: Sam Estenson, Marrk Emmons, Aleta Kolan, Colin Watkins, Felicia Hansell, Troy Cohrs (advisor), Logan Smestad



**Houston 1** - (L to R): Krin Abraham-Berg (advisor), Morgan Lehmann, Ellen Gustafson, Theresa Breault, Jackie Heintz, Sam Montgomery

**Cannon Falls 1** - Front Row (L to R): Thyra Bierman, Anne Mellesmoen (advisor), Back Row (L to R): Betsy Venn, Zeke Pederson, Bryan Malone



**Rochester Mayo Gold** - (L to R): Susan Wolfe (advisor), Andrew Peters, Scott Thomas, Terry Moynihan, Dan Padley, Kathryn Wiseman, Jake Giesen (advisor)



**Spring Grove 1** - Front Row (L to R): Joe Morken, Kjersti Fried, Back Row (L to R): Al Lochner (advisor), Joe Dokken, Will Crickman, Kevin Lochner



**Rochester Mayo White** - (L to R): Mladen Gajic, Sandip Suresh, Phil Becher, Garrett Flick, Ajay Madhavan, Jake Giesen (advisor)



**Kasson-Mantorville 1** - Front Row (L to R): Ross Hackenmiller, Anna Sannes, Back Row (L to R): Tim Bungum, Patrick Sullivan, Josh Bernards, Althea Rood (advisor), Melisa Ferris (advisor)



**Austin Scarlet** - Front Row: Jacki Hoong, Back Row (L to R): JoAnne Canfield (advisor), Anthony Hernandez, Dustin Gillard, Sarah Chao, Skyler Vilt

# History Day alive and well in Minnesota

By Bari Amadio



To paraphrase Mark Twain, the reports of the demise of History Day in southeastern Minnesota are greatly exaggerated. Too often lately, History seems to be taking a backseat to Science,

Math and Reading, important as they might be. Thus, as part of the federal Teaching American History (TAH) grant awarded to SSC, a goal was incorporated to increase involvement of our schools in History Day. After the first year of this effort, we are happy to report that History Day is alive and well in our region of the State.

March saw Regional History Day held on the Winona campus of Winona State University. According to Jessica Ellison, the Minnesota History Day Program Associate with the Minnesota Historical Society, the projects from our region were very strong.

The State History Day competition was held April 21 at the University of Minnesota. The following schools had a total of 55 projects in the State competition: Cannon Falls Elementary, Rochester Century HS, Chosen Valley Jr/Sr, Houston HS, Kellogg Middle School-Rochester, Lewiston-Altura Intermediate, Schaeffer Academy-Rochester, St. Francis of Assisi-Rochester Catholic, Stewartville Middle, Twin Bluff Middle, Wabasha-Kellogg HS, Willow Creek Middle-Rochester, Winona Middle and Zumbrota-Mazeppa.

Much of the success of History Day is due to the dedication of our teachers. For example, Houston teachers Jason Freed and Kelsey Glebke took two research trips with their students in preparation. Penny Alsager, Dustin Hookom and Maggie Brimijoin of Willow Creek Middle School encouraged History Day also. Although a completely voluntary project at their school, so many

students chose to participate that 11 entries were competing at State.

As part of the TAH grant, SSC is partnering with the Minnesota Historical Society to provide workshop training for teachers interested in participating in History Day. Whether one is new to History Day or an old pro, there is much to be gained by attending this free workshop, including the personalized attention of Jessica Ellison for your students.

St. Francis teacher Dennis Schreiber was instrumental in re-introducing his school to History Day after a 14 year absence. He sums it up best when he says, "The support from Jessica Ellison, our Minnesota History Center Associate, was monumental in guiding our students to success. Her three visits created a bond with the students in helping them select and narrow a topic that was researchable. Her knowledge in teaching the students how to write a thesis statement was most valuable to me as teacher. The program taught my students history in a real world way and put them on a quest to explore primary and secondary sources. It taught them the ups and downs



of doing research and how to start a project, how to be flexible and change their thinking and approaches while researching and how to reach a happy and successful ending. My students were able to continue communicating with Jessica via e-mail in order to refine their topics and develop a solid thesis statement. All 53 of our 7th and 8th graders completed the History Day Journey with 11 participating at the Regional Fair at Winona State University and three young ladies will be presenting at the State Competition in the Performance Category. Thanks for the revitalization of History Day at St. Francis of Assisi School!!"

Such excitement is infectious, for the major success is the knowledge and skills all participants in History Day have acquired. If you want to light a spark in a child, and take advantage of Jessica's expertise, consider attending the next History Day workshop offered for free at SSC next fall of 2007. Watch our website as the time approaches for additional information.

Keep an eye on [www.ssc.coop](http://www.ssc.coop) to view the slate of free history education seminars that will be offered for SSC members throughout the 2007-08 school year.

We would like to congratulate the following students on their excellent showing at the State History Day competition:

#### Third Place:

Stewartville Middle School  
Hannah Bardwell, Lydia Bardwell,  
Elizabeth Bardwell, Abigail Bardwell

#### Honorable Mentions:

Chosen Valley JH and High School  
Chelsey Mahoney, Carrie Strand, Brandon  
Gudieran, Victoria Klomps, Bailey  
Hilgren, Erik Hilgren, Matti Boice, Melissa  
Finley, Sydney Gehrking, Hannah Mesick

#### Houston High School

Ashley Tisdell, Heather Sieve, Rachel  
Scanlon, Pete Kidehl, Zach Stackhouse

Kellogg Middle School, Rochester  
Armand Thompson

Northfield Middle School  
Maria Olson

Stewartville Middle School  
Isaac Kidd, Chloe Kidd

Willow Creek Middle School, Rochester  
Joe Hagedorn, Haley Larson, Hannah  
Olson-Williams, Lexi Grafe

Zumbrota-Mazeppa  
Libby Klapperich



# Cooperative Purchasing with the Southeast Service Cooperative

*SSC is a member of the Minnesota Regional Service Agency. The Cooperative Purchasing Program is a statewide purchasing pool delivered regionally*



## Office Supplies



*Type of contract: Line item bid and vendor discount*

### OfficeMax

[www.officemaxsolutions.com](http://www.officemaxsolutions.com)

Contact: Steve Reiter  
1-800-839-8988 ext 5968  
stevereiter@officemax.com

Prices are discounted an average of 57%. You will need to submit a tax exempt certificate and contact information in order to get setup. Online ordering is the preferred method for fast ordering and delivery. Free delivery. Orders placed on-line by 4pm are typically delivered next day. Frequent/bid item order requisition form is available for you. "Retail Connect" card available to purchase items at contract pricing in the retail stores.

## School Supplies

*Type of contract: Line item bid and vendor discount*



### School Specialty

[www.schoolspecialty.com](http://www.schoolspecialty.com)

1-888-388-3224

School Specialty offers a complete selection of classroom and art supplies. If you have not signed up for our special MRSA pricing, please contact us. We can offer you better pricing than you can receive on your own. You'll be eligible for a minimum 20% discount. Internet ordering is available. Free shipping. We have a frequent order requisition form available for you.

- Air Filters
- Audio Equipment
- Audio Visual Bulbs
- Audio Visual Equipment
- Building Bulbs
- Copier Equipment
- Copy Paper
- Family & Consumer Science Supplies
- Garbage Disposal Guard
- Industrial Tools
- Laminating Supplies
- Mobile/Wireless Phones
- Office Supplies
- Physical Education Equip
- Playground Equipment
- School Supplies
- Science Supplies & Equipment
- Software
- Software-Accounting
- Software-Reading
- Software-Writing
- Sound Insulation
- Technology-Hardware & Software
- TV/VCRs
- Vehicles

# Cooperative Purchasing with SSC

## Technology

Type of contract: General bid and vendor discount

### TechDepot

[www.techdepot.com](http://www.techdepot.com)

Contact:

Sean Raby

1-800-625-9866 ext 7259

[sraby@techdepot.com](mailto:sraby@techdepot.com)



Large inventory of hardware and software. On-line ordering and free delivery.

Type of contract: General bid and vendor discount

### CDWG

[www.cdwg.com/mrsa](http://www.cdwg.com/mrsa)

Contacts:

Michael Meier (866-282-6930)

[michmei@cdwg.com](mailto:michmei@cdwg.com)

Oleg Krylov (866-770-0358) [olegkry@cdwg.com](mailto:olegkry@cdwg.com)



CDWG is a national known company for technology purchasing and offers a large inventory of hardware and software solutions. An additional discount of 2-13% off regular pricing.

## Software

Adobe, Microsoft, FileMaker Pro, Symantec

## Educational Resources

Type of contract: Contract price from manufacturer (Microsoft Select agreement pricing)

**Educational Resources** (1-800-610-5005)

[www.edresources.com](http://www.edresources.com)

We have specific pricing guides and contacts for Microsoft and Adobe. Reference to contract #20716 for the SSC price program. Other software offered at 10% discount

## Audio Visual Bulbs

Type of contract: General bid and vendor discount

### Scott Electric

[www.scottelectricusa.com](http://www.scottelectricusa.com) (1-800-442-4505)

[sld@scottelectricusa.com](mailto:sld@scottelectricusa.com)

### **Scott Electric**

Scott Electric offers a complete line of projector and stage projection lamps at discounted prices. This is one of greatest discount programs we offer! Send orders directly to Scott and request the Southeast Service Cooperative discount, or send them to us.

## Audio Equipment

Type of contract: preferred vendor/discount

## AUDIO ENHANCEMENT

### Audio Enhancement

[www.audioenhancement.com](http://www.audioenhancement.com)

1-800-383-9362

Classroom equipment for improving sound for students and/or teachers.

## Audio Visual Equipment



Type of contract: General bid and vendor discount

### Compview

[www.compview.com](http://www.compview.com)

Contact: Scott Taylor

877-297-2068

[staylor@compview.com](mailto:staylor@compview.com)

Epson projectors, carts, cameras, overhead projectors, interactive whiteboards. Free delivery on orders over \$500.

## TV/VCRs

Type of contract: General bid and vendor discount

### Radio & TV Equipment, Inc.

[www.rteinc.net](http://www.rteinc.net)

Contact: Bruce Holtan

[bruce@rteinc.net](mailto:bruce@rteinc.net)



TV, LCD, VHS players, DVD players, combination players, mounts, camcorders.

## Laminating supplies



Type of contract:

General bid

**OfficeMax**

[www.officemaxsolutions.com](http://www.officemaxsolutions.com)

Contact: Steve Reiter

1-800-839-8988 ext 5968

[stevereiter@officemax.com](mailto:stevereiter@officemax.com)

Fax order to to Steve Reiter at 1-763-315-5172.

Laminating film, pouches and a laminator.



# Cooperative Purchasing with SSC

## Building Bulbs

Type of contract: General bid

**JH Larson** (1-800-292-7970)  
[www.jhlarson.com](http://www.jhlarson.com)



**J.H. LARSON**  
COMPANY

Be sure to mention you are a SSC member, you'll be eligible for discounted prices.

## Industrial Tools



Type of contract:  
Preferred vendor

**ACME Tool Crib**  
[www.acmetoolcrib.com](http://www.acmetoolcrib.com)  
Contact: Brian Wavra  
1-800-732-4287

ACME offers a complete line of industry standard tools for industrial arts shop class, buildings and grounds, bus garages, street and highway departments, as well as tools for all types of construction projects. Be sure to mention you are a SSC member - you'll be eligible for up to a 10% discount. Check out the complete online catalog for your convenience.

## Air Filters

Type of contract:  
General bid



### FiltraTech

[www.filtratechsys.com](http://www.filtratechsys.com)  
Contact: Debi Hunter (952-516-7509)  
dhunter@filtratechsys.com

FiltraTech is a "single source" supplier for all of your filtration needs. They can supply HVAC, water, grease, fluid and dust filtration to name a few.

## Supplies & Equipment for: Family & Consumer Science, Physical Education and Science



Type of contract: General bid and vendor discount  
**NASCO**

[www.nasco.com](http://www.nasco.com)  
1-800-558-9595

Be sure to reference the following Nasco quote numbers on your purchase order to receive the 10% total discount (free shipping on orders over \$50).

Family & Consumer Science . . . . . #06-55370  
Science Supplies & Equipment . . . . . #06-85219  
Physical Education . . . . . #06-87973  
Health, Math, Ag . . . . . #03-55369

## Sound Insulation



Type of contract: preferred vendor/discount

### Acoustical Surfaces

[www.educationalacoustics.com](http://www.educationalacoustics.com)  
1-800-448-3134  
info@educationalacoustics.com

Full range of noise control and soundproofing materials for schools. Mention you are an SSC member for discounts.

## Playground Equipment



Type of contract:  
General bid



### Midwest Playscapes, Inc.

[www.playworldsystems.com](http://www.playworldsystems.com)  
Contact: Tom Witek (1-800-747-1452)  
email: [playscapes@earthlink.net](mailto:playscapes@earthlink.net)

Full range of park, playground and recreational equipment, surfacing, athletic equipment, site amenities, installations and more. Free consultation, design, inspections. Leasing available. 17% discount on everything.

## Software-Reading

Type of contract: preferred vendor/discount



### Scientific Learning - Fast ForWord software

[www.scilearn.com](http://www.scilearn.com)  
Contact: Tony Galvin  
1-592-942-7790  
[tgalvin@scilearn.com](mailto:tgalvin@scilearn.com)

Special software for improving reading skills of students of all ages.

## Copy Paper

Type of contract: Bid

### Southeast Service Cooperative

Contact: Dale Walston at 507-281-6675  
[dwalston@ssc.coop](mailto:dwalston@ssc.coop)



Annual spring bid with pricing for color paper and Xerox white.

# Cooperative Purchasing with SSC

## Software - Accounting

Type of contract: Vendor discount

### Banyon Data Systems

Banyon Data Systems  
[www.banyon.com](http://www.banyon.com)

Contact: Jeff Christensen  
1-800-229-1130  
[jeffc@banyon.com](mailto:jeffc@banyon.com)



Banyon Data Systems develops, instructs and supports a wide variety of software for cities, towns, villages, counties, public libraries, and other public entities. Discounted pricing based on municipal population. The smaller the community the larger the discount.

## Software-Writing



Type of contract: preferred vendor/discount

### Vantage Learning – MyAccess! software

[www.vantage.com](http://www.vantage.com)  
Contact: Debbie Shaw  
1-800-230-2213 x1239  
[dshaw@vantage.com](mailto:dshaw@vantage.com)

Special software for improving the essay writing skills of students of all ages. Contact us for a schedule of upcoming webinars.

## Vehicles

Type of contract: bid

### Nelson Automotive Group

Contact: Gerry Womer  
1-800-726-7564 ext 123  
[gerrywomer@nelsondodgegmc.com](mailto:gerrywomer@nelsondodgegmc.com)



Contract mirrors the state contract for vehicles with deepest fleet discounts applied from all manufacturers, except this provides more options and can be used any time during the year.

## Mobile/Wireless Phones

Type of contract: preferred vendor/discount

### Midwest Wireless

1-800-545-3950



Any member, including employees' personal accounts are eligible for a 10% association discount.

## Garbage Disposal Guard

Type of contract: preferred vendor/discount

### Safety Enterprises

1-320-249-6244  
[www.safetyent.com](http://www.safetyent.com)



This garbage disposal guard is OSHA approved and provides a simple and effective engineering solution to the problem of accidental injury. Handcrafted from stainless steel, GARD-U is designed to last for the lifetime of the disposal unit. More details can be found in this brochure.

## Copier Equipment

Type of contract: bid



### Metro Sales, Inc.

Contact: Aaron Moeckly (507-285-0039)  
[amoeckly@metrosales.com](mailto:amoeckly@metrosales.com)  
[www.metrosales.com](http://www.metrosales.com)

### Konica-Minolta

Contact: Carrie Perkins  
A+ Imaging, Rochester, MN  
507-292-8888  
[cperkins@aplusimaging.com](mailto:cperkins@aplusimaging.com)



Bid generated contract with competitive pricing on Ricoh copier equipment and Konica-Minolta. Save time and money by taking advantage of the contracts SSC has with Metro Sales, Inc. and Konica-Minolta.

## Southeast Service Cooperative [www.ssc.coop](http://www.ssc.coop)



### Dale Walston

210 Wood Lake Drive SE  
Rochester, MN 55904  
[dwalston@ssc.coop](mailto:dwalston@ssc.coop)  
507.281.6675 or 800.657.6996 x 102  
fax: 507.288.7663

## Health Promotions... Web resources for SSC members

Do you know about the wellness resources available to you on the SSC website? Here's a rundown of what you can find. To get there, go to [www.ssc.coop](http://www.ssc.coop), then click on "Insurance Services" in the menu bar, and then on "Wellness Programming" in this menu.

### Available Information:

- Why Wellness: return on investment data to share with leadership and decision makers.
- Information about how to participate in the e-Health Package, which features the Mayo Clinic Health Risk Assessment:
  - A brochure that describes the service
  - The e-Health sign-up agreement for insurance pool members
  - The e-Health sign-up agreement for non-insurance pool members
  - A power point presentation that describes the e-Health package features.
- Health Fair 101: How SSC Can Assist You: Organizations may utilize SSC resources to plan an onsite Health Fair for employees. This document describes some steps to consider in this planning process, and ways in which SSC can assist.
- Order forms for the Mayo Clinic Guide to Self Care, step counter pedometers, and other incentive items available at reduced rates through SSC. **\*\*\* To better serve you, we now have pedometers in stock at the SSC office!\*\*\***
- Links to Minnesota RxConnect Online, which includes information on issues related to prescription medicine, and Minnesota RxPrice Compare, which lists local prescription medication prices.
- Locate the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) study on School-Age Children and Obesity.
- Find Sample Wellness Job Descriptions for wellness coordinators in your organization.
- Find Sample Facility Usage Policies for organizations whose employees use part of the facility for physical activity.
- Locate links to information on the Blue Cross Blue Shield Nurse Line, and more.

Check back for updates, and feel free to suggest anything else you would like to see posted (send ideas to [Bekka Meyer rmeyer@ssc.coop](mailto:Bekka.Meyer@ssc.coop)).

## Heart health at work

The following are examples of worksite Policy and Environmental Interventions that help reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke:

- Wellness messages, such as the warning signs and symptoms of heart attack and stroke, and when to call 9-1-1
- Incentives to engage in healthy behavior
- Blood pressure monitors
- CPR classes
- Automated external defibrillators
- Smoke-free policies
- Health education classes and support groups with individual goal setting
- Low-cost nutritious food in cafeterias and snack bars; point-of-purchase nutritional information
- Places for physical activity such as marked walking paths, signage to encourage stair use, health clubs or gyms

Source:

[www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/library/toolkit/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/library/toolkit/index.htm)

## Watch for these Future Resources from SSC

- Thanks to a grant from the Minnesota Department of Health, SSC will supply each member organization with a copy of the CDC's **Successful Business Strategies to Prevent Heart Disease and Stroke Toolkit**.
- SSC members who currently utilize the e-Health Package service will be transitioning to the new and improved EmbodyHealth platform over the summer. More information will be coming about this exciting development!

## School pool awards 2007 carrier contract to BCBS

School groups who purchase their health insurance through Southeast Service Cooperative will continue receiving their health carrier services with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota.

A joint powers agreement gives SSC the responsibility to carry out a bid process every four years on behalf of its pool member groups. At the May 9 school pool annual meeting, SSC staff

and consultants summarized the bid process and results. They also shared updates in pool features and benefits.

For information about how a group benefits from the volume and negotiating leverage of our regional pool and our statewide Service Cooperative collaboration, visit [www.ssc.coop](http://www.ssc.coop) and click on Insurance Services, Health Insurance Pools.



## Cooperative Purchasing news

By Dale Walston

### Paper Orders

Our annual paper pricing is available for you. The pricing is guaranteed through June 30, 2007, but we must receive your order before June 15, 2007 and must be delivered no later than August 10, 2007. The pricing and forms can also be downloaded from our website at [www.ssc.coop](http://www.ssc.coop). Click on *Admin Service, Cooperative Purchasing, Copy Paper*. If you have questions, contact Erian Crary at 507-281-6671, [ecrary@ssc.coop](mailto:ecrary@ssc.coop) or Dale Walston at 507-281-6675, [dwalston@ssc.coop](mailto:dwalston@ssc.coop)

### Disposal of Electronic Equipment

Asset Recovery Service from the metro area will be making more "milk runs" to southeast Minnesota for computer and electronic equipment that you would like to dispose of. Asset Recovery holds the state contract and will only bill to organizations that participate as members in the state administration contract. Southeast Service Cooperative is a member and will act as a conduit for the billing for our members for this service if you want to par-

ticipate. The more organizations that participate in these milk runs, the lower the cost is for the cost of transportation, so please consider these dates for disposal:

**Wednesday, June 13, 2007**

**Wednesday, August 15, 2007**

For questions and/or to get on the schedule to your location for this milk run, you need to **contact Joy McClellan at Asset Recovery at 651-602-0789 or [jmcclellan@assetrecoverycorp.com](mailto:jmcclellan@assetrecoverycorp.com)**

### SmartBoard group discount

In order to assist our members in purchasing SmartBoards for the 2007-08 school year, we are providing you with a group purchase opportunity. This unique opportunity will allow pricing to drop significantly from where the boards are listed at now. If you participate in this group buy, you can purchase the SmartBoard Model SB680 for \$1,220 each, compared to the current price of \$1339. Orders must be placed by June 15th for delivery and billing after July 1, 2007. Please



### Purchasing playground equipment?

You do not need to bid if you use this contract!

Contact Tom Witek or Bruce Pudwill at Midwest Playscapes. 1-800-747-1452 or [playscapes@earthlink.net](mailto:playscapes@earthlink.net).

### Purchasing any vehicles?

You do not need to bid if you use this fleet discount contract!

Contact Gerry Worner at Nelson

Motors. (800) 726-7564 ext 123 or [gerryworner@nelsondodgegmc.com](mailto:gerryworner@nelsondodgegmc.com)



## EHSM – SSC - IEA – Unscrambled, it reads “safe and healthy”

This spring, providers of services in environmental health and safety management were invited to propose future services for SSC members. Two comprehensive proposals were received, and a committee of member administrators reviewed them. The SSC Board accepted this committee's recommendation to enter a new three-year contract with Institute for Environmental Assessment.

In May member administrators and facility managers will receive information about the new three-year service program and will begin planning their 2007-08 service program with IEA consultants.

**Basic Service.** IEA's support for schools, cities, and counties includes basic services associated with general regulatory compliance in each identified regulatory area. Services include such things as annual training, review of program records, management plan modification recommendations, and program implementation recommendations, including budget planning.

**Project Management.** SSC Members who enter into basic services agreements with IEA through the SSC program enjoy additional discounted rates on project specific services associated with particular actions, or projects, within a regulatory area. These separate proposals are made for projects such as

asbestos removal, computer-aided environmental and facility management, facility planning, HVAC commissioning, HVAC design, lead in water testing, machine guarding and mold remediation projects.

For assistance with your environmental health and safety management support, contact Suzanne Riley at 507.281.6673, [sriley@ssc.coop](mailto:sriley@ssc.coop), or Pat Weir, IEA Regional Manager at 507.281.6677, [patw@ieainstitute.com](mailto:patw@ieainstitute.com).



## Springsted offers comprehensive referendum assistance

Springsted provides its public education clients with the broadest and most effective suite of election services available in the industry. Clients can access everything from comprehensive voter file preparation, to scientific, random-sample surveys, to sophisticated post-election analyses. Springsted has exclusive contracts with The Center for Community Opinion for voter file and survey work, and TIES for demographic mapping.

Dr. Don E. Lifto, senior vice president and director of the Public Education Team, leads Springsted's election services. Lifto has a national reputation in harnessing research and successful practices in planning and conducting successful bond and operating levies. He is a frequent presenter and contributing writer on this topic and is coauthor of *School Finance Elections: A Comprehensive Planning Model for Success*.

Springsted's election services also include campaign planning and communications. Clients are provided with detailed tasks and timelines integrating key activities of the school board, administration, and campaign committee. Springsted provides communication planning and technical writing and design of campaign media. Some election services are provided to all public school districts, while others are focused on our financial advisory clients. Clients may also receive discounts on analytical services provided by The Center for Community Opinion and TIES.

### Professional Development

To complement assistance provided to individual districts, Springsted provides referendum training seminars to school administrators in cooperation with professional organizations. These workshops are designed to help school districts prepare for referenda seeking increases in the revenue cap or



Dr. Don Lifto

authority to issue bonds. Our workshops represent a marriage of research and successful practice, emphasizing systems and strategies, rather than specific campaign tactics that allow school leaders to elevate their thinking to a more comprehensive, long-range vision of election planning. In recent full-day seminars conducted jointly by Springsted and The Center for Community Opinion, the following topics were addressed in depth:

- Preparation and use of registered voter file data
- Looking back to plan ahead through post-election analyses
- Achieving ballot alignment through use of scientific, random-sample surveys
- Communication planning and message development
- Identifying campaign targets and concentric canvassing strategies
- Structure and organization of the campaign
- Strategies to recruit a winning team
- Developing a detailed campaign plan
- Planning for & coping with organized opposition
- Get-Out-the-Vote research and strategies

For further information, please contact:

Don Lifto, Senior Vice President  
651-223-3067

DeeDee Kahring, Vice President  
651-223-3099

Jim Schmitt, Vice President  
651-223-3028



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Find out more: [www.mnmsba.org/public/main.cfm](http://www.mnmsba.org/public/main.cfm) or [www.springsted.com](http://www.springsted.com)



## From the desk of Health and Safety Management Assistant, Bob Tweten Updates for Health & Safety

### UPCOMING HEALTH AND SAFETY WORKSHOP

#### Annual Town Meeting

Phil Allmon will present the State Department's Health and Safety Standards on Monday, June 5, from 8:30 until 11:30 at the Southeast Service Cooperative in Rochester. This meeting will provide Superintendents, Business Managers, and Health and Safety Coordinators with the new standards, funding changes, and timelines that need to be met for Health and Safety projects for the 2007-2008 school year.

There is no charge for SSC members for this event. Non-members will be charged \$30.00 per individual attending.

Districts may register on line by going to our website or by emailing Dick Riley (driley@ssc.coop) with the following information: name, school district, contact phone number, and

indicate that it is a registration for the Town Hall meeting.

**Register By: Wednesday, May 30, 2007**

F.Y.I –

The Minnesota OSHA Enforcement division has made formal inspections in five southeast school districts and have indicated that they will continue to work towards inspecting every school district in the state.

Please feel free to contact me regarding Health and Safety issues as they apply to your school district. Bob Tweten at (507-281-6663).



## SSC Board of Directors update

For more information about SSC Board meetings, you can read them on the SSC website at [www.ssc.coop](http://www.ssc.coop) under the Board of Directors link.

### February 2007

Adopted revised policies included in Document 40 presented in December.

Authorized the Executive Director to negotiate the purchase of the 5,000 square feet on the south end of the SSC building, based on the commercial appraisal.

Accepted the settlement report for the 2005-2006 School Health Insurance Pool.

Directed staff to develop a criteria in the Health Insurance program management policy relating to settlement and disposition of eligible claims funds.

### March 2007

Adopt a resolution to participate in the Minnesota Procurement Card program with PFM Financial Services and Harris Bank.

Approved the purchase of the 5,000 square foot space in the Wood Lake Building from the JoAnn Oman Revocable Trust.

Accepted Reden & Anders recommendation and award the carrier contract for medical and pharmacy to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota contingent on negotiation of a new contract and subject to update of ratings based on most current utilization information.

Awarded a three-year contract for environmental health and safety services to Institute for Environmental Assessment (IEA) and to implement measures to increase client onsite accountability reporting and SC advocacy and monitoring.

Adopted the proposed revision to SSC Policy Administration of the Health Insurance Program to delineate claims fund disposition upon pool settlement.

### April 2007

Received a presentation by Lesley Schellenberg about the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence

and discussed implementation of this quality framework for the Service Cooperative.

Adopted the four-year SSC Technology plan effective July 1, 2007.

Adopted the School Pool Plan Year 2007 pool rating formula and plan as recommended.

Approved Associate membership of Zumbro Education District effective May 1, 2007.

Adopted the 2007-08 employee compensation package (wages and benefits) and an updated wage guideline as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

Executed a new three-year contract with the Executive Director pursuant to the recommendation of the Personnel Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 23 at 5:30 PM.



# What is high-quality professional development?

By Diane Schwinghammer

One of the AYP Coordinator's responsibilities is to be a resource to AYP schools and districts for high quality professional development. What is high-quality professional development? Authors Marsha Speck and Caroll Knipe define it this way:

*"High –quality professional development is a sustained collaborative learning process that systematically nourishes the growth of educators (individuals and teams) through adult learner-centered, job-embedded processes. It focuses on educators' attaining the skills, abilities, and deep understandings needed to improve student achievement."*

The AYP Coordinators recommend and provide professional development opportunities to AYP schools and districts which align to the identified needs of the instructional staff leading to the increase of student achievement.

Southeast Service Cooperative is offering two opportunities this summer designed to support schools who have been identified as not making adequate yearly progress AND schools/districts who want to increase the effectiveness of their school improvement processes.

**"Designing High-Quality Professional Development for Standards-Based Schools"** based on Marsha Speck and Caroll Knipe's book *"Why Can't We Get It Right?"*. This one-day workshop is intended for administrators and teachers who lead the planning and implementation of professional development at the district and site level. Participants will engage in a conversation about the characteristics of high quality professional development, implications for training and development plans and strategies for evaluating the effectiveness of the professional development experiences. This workshop will be offered August 1, 2007 and registration information will be available in May.

**SMART School Team Training**, applying the research and practices of Anne Consemius and Jan O'Neill, is intended for school leadership teams.

The training involves 7 modules on the following topics:

1. Building Effective Site Leadership Teams
2. Understanding and Interpreting Data
3. Developing Site Improvement Plans
4. Conducting "30 Minute Meetings"
5. Breakthrough Strategies Using PDSA
6. Principal and Teacher Leadership
7. Assessing Team Effectiveness and Celebrating Accomplishments

The first 2 modules will be offered at Southeast Service Coop on August 13-14, 2007. Modules 3-7 will be conducted on site and scheduled based on the needs of the leadership teams. This training will be free to all AYP schools/districts. Registration materials will be available on the SSC website and emailed to building administrators in all member districts.

Both of these workshops will provide an excellent foundation for educators who are leaders in their districts, participants of Professional Learning Communities, or members of any school or district team.



## Heidi Knepper joins SSC

Heidi Knepper joined the Southeast Service Cooperative in January as the third member of the AYP/School Improvement team. This team provides technical assistance to school and district teams as they continue to improve and build their internal capacity.

Heidi brings with her 13 years of experience in education, along with 2 years of non-education administrative experience. She is currently completing an Ed. Specialist degree in Educational Leadership. Heidi has taught in elementary and middle school classrooms, as well as served

as a Title I and Curriculum Coordinator.

Through those experiences Heidi has been involved in delivering and organizing professional development in areas such as curriculum, instruction, assessment and data. She is joining Southeast Service Cooperative as the third member of the AYP/School Improvement team.



### SMART Goals

**S = Specific**  
**M = Measurable**  
**A = Attainable**  
**R = Realistic**  
**T = Timely**

## Why should I consider an HR Assessment for my organization?

Many smaller organizations may not have the luxury of having a Human Resources department or even a Human Resources specialist on their staff. Often times, basic HR duties may be added to the list of tasks performed by an administrative staff member. The result may be that HR practices are not as effective as necessary and could result in increased risk of employment liability issues.

Another common scenario is the organization that has grown to the point where they need a more structured approach to their HR policies and practices but don't know where to turn for the affordable expertise they need.

These situations are typical and may identify candidates for an HR assessment conducted by a qualified HR professional consultant. The purpose of the assessment is to provide a high level review of your organization's key HR policies and practices and to help you assess how the organization measures up to current best practices.

Roger Jones, Human Resource Management Services, LLC, has conducted numerous HR assessments in the Southeast Minnesota area over the past 5 years. He focuses on areas such as interviewing and hiring practices, wage/salary structure, position evaluation, job descriptions, employee handbook, leadership and employee effectiveness, employment law compliance, etc.

A typical assessment usually takes less than one day to conduct. An assessment report is provided to the customer within one week of the assessment session. The customer can then determine if further review and/or action should be taken to address any issues identified by the assessment.

Here are a couple examples of how HR assessments have triggered significant business improvements.

ABC organization requested an HR assessment to help determine how to address several HR deficiencies that existed. The executive director knew

that certain changes needed to be made but wanted help to implement the changes. There was no structure to the job levels, job descriptions didn't exist and there was no consistent wage/salary process being followed. Following a high-level HR assessment it was decided to conduct a job analysis for all positions in the organization. The result was the establishment of a hierarchy of jobs and job categories based on the relative worth of the positions in the organization. Once the job structure was in place, ADA compliant job descriptions were created. Then it was time to tackle the wage/salary issues which made it possible to maintain internal salary and wage equity.

Another example of the effectiveness of an HR assessment is the case of an organization that had a high level of employee turnover. The President felt much of the turnover was due to wages which were not competitive enough to adequately attract and retain employees. Another concern was the level of consistent leadership effectiveness in the organization. An HR assessment was conducted and several initiatives emerged.

A wage study was continued to determine how wages compared to peer organizations in the region. The study indicated that wages were below the competition for many positions where turnover was an issue. Wage increases addressed the immediate salary issue. Newly developed salary ranges and structure helped ensure fairness and consistency going forward.

Another issue that was determined through the assessment was that employees were not always sure what was expected of them and performance evaluations were being done on a random, inconsistent basis. A new performance management process was implemented which greatly improved employee involvement in determining expectations and documenting employee accomplishments. A compensation system was also put into place that based salary increases on merit and performance.



Roger Jones

To address the leadership issues, a series of management training sessions were provided to the leadership team. These offerings included topics such as Management 101, Team Building, Coaching for Performance, Effective Team Meetings, Diversity and Harassment classes. A leadership retreat was also conducted to address other organizational effectiveness issues brought out in the HR Assessment.

Managing a business is a constant challenge. Keeping up with industry trends, controlling costs, maintaining customer satisfaction and product quality can be difficult. Human Resource Management Services can help you think through and manage decisions about your most important asset; your human resources. We can assist your organization to:

- Improve the selection process and quality of new employees
- Improve productivity and morale at all levels within the organization
- Improve customer service and satisfaction
- Reduce your potential legal liabilities for employee related issues

Contact Roger Jones for a free initial consultation and evaluation of your Human Resource needs.

Roger Jones, PHR  
Human Resource Management Services, LLC  
507-286-7807  
rjoneshr@prodigy.net

## Continuous improvement in the Science classroom

As reported in our last newsletter, SSC and the Rochester Area Math Science Partnership introduced an Inquiry-Based Science Professional Learning Community for our area science teachers as a part of our on-going grant project involving the 13 RAMSP districts.

The participants have since continued to meet monthly to accomplish the following: 1) expand upon and share teaching strategies used in implementing inquiry in the classroom, 2) work toward the direct alignment of the History and Nature of Science standards to the science curriculum, 3) develop and implement inquiry-based action plans to practice specific teach-



ing strategies in the classroom and monitor their level of success, and 4) build a community of science leaders to serve as the point person for science and science teaching in their school.

This cohort of 20 science education leaders have not only benefited from the valuable experience by learning about innovative methods for teaching science through use of the inquiry process, but have also practiced the concept of continuous improvement.

During each session, participants create an action plan related to a lesson that they would like to improve upon. As a result of their action plan, each teacher reflects on the changes they made in their teaching practice in regards to instructional planning, instructional delivery, and classroom management. They also consider the changes in student performance that may have resulted from their work, as observed through classroom observations,



traditional assessments, and evidence from student work.

In relation to these changes, participants are encouraged to consider what exactly may have brought about changes in student performance and to document what worked and what didn't by giving specific examples.

We expect to have fabulous evaluation results to share with you in our next newsletter, and will also be offering this opportunity next year for a new cohort of K-8 science teachers.

## Improving technological literacy for educators

Southeast Minnesota Service Cooperative is using an Enhancing Education Through Technology (E2T2) grant to develop teacher technological literacy and integration proficiency with best practice forums in needs assessment and a regional expert training network. Recognizing the challenges of traditional lab-based training, we are offering InfoSource to our members, an online learning solution with training tailored to each learner's needs.

Research shows that web-based courses in key applications and classroom integration can enrich the education environment, and can effectively help

anyone using Microsoft Office products advance their skills.

Thanks to the grant, we were able to negotiate a regional pricing structure that allows us to bring this product to our members at a very affordable price, which was an inhibiting factor in the past. Even if you are not participating in the grant project, this special pricing is available to you.

The base cost is only \$25 per person for a two-year license! You can't find a better solution at a better price! This rate is pro-rated depending on what your final start date is. Web-based



demonstrations of the product can be arranged at any time.

Currently, 2,100 teachers, administrators, and support staff have licenses and it is our goal to increase participation to over 2,500. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity and how your district, city, county, or non-profit might benefit from online technology training, please contact Amy Grover at [agrover@ssc.coop](mailto:agrover@ssc.coop) or 507-281-6693.



## SOUTHEAST SERVICE CO-OP

Members and Employees, sign up for wireless service now or renew your expired service agreement and get 10% off your monthly service plan - every month!\*

# Gear Up For Summer

## The Tri-State™ Plan

Call Minnesota, Iowa  
and Wisconsin Home

With the kids' soccer and baseball games I'm on the road every weekend. My Tri-State plan keeps me connected where I travel most. And with my free phone I can pull up maps and make reservations.

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# Calendar

## MAY

Monday, May 14

**Phil Allmon Boot Camp Workshop**

8:00 - 11:30 AM at SSC

Tuesday, May 15

**MDE - NSS**

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM at SSC

Tuesday, May 15

**SE TAH Cohort Meeting**

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM location TBA

Wednesday - Thursday, May 16-17

**Young Authors Young Artists Conference**

All day events at UCR Main Campus

Thursday, May 17

**MDE - EMAP**

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM at SSC

Tuesday, May 22

**Regional AYP Meeting**

12:00 - 4:00 PM at SSC

Wednesday, May 23

**SSC Board Meeting**

5:30 PM at SSC

Monday, May 28

**Memorial Day Holiday**

SSC Office Closed

## JUNE

Tuesday, June 5

**Town Meeting with Phil Allmon**

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM at SSC

Wednesday, June 6

**Group Health Plans/HIPAA Privacy Regulations Seminar**

1:00 - 4:45 PM at SSC

Friday, June 8

**Legislative Wrap Up with Tom Melcher**

9:00 - 11:30 AM at SSC

Monday - Tuesday, June 11-12

**IBScience Gateway to Mastery**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at SSC

Wednesday, June 13

**Technology Fair**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at Venture Computer Systems

Thursday, June 14

**Region V**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM at SSC

Thursday, June 14

**AAC Meeting**

12:00 - 3:00 PM at SSC

Wednesday, June 20

**Region V**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM at SSC

Wednesday, June 27

**IBScience Cohort Meeting**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at SSC

Wednesday, June 27

**SSC Board Meeting**

5:30 PM at SSC

## JULY

Monday - Thursday, July 9-12

**TAH SE Summer Institute**

All day events - location TBA

Monday, July 30

**SSC Board Meeting**

5:30 PM at SSC

## AUGUST

Wednesday, August 22

**SSC Board Meeting**

5:30 PM at SSC

# Milestones

## DOVER-EYOTA

### New Hires

Loren Kiefer, Technology Director  
Denise Strosahl, HS English Teacher

### Anniversaries

Carol Bedtke	3rd grade teacher	33 years
Bob Browne	2nd grade teacher	24 years
Sue Cordes	5th grade teacher	31 years
Sheri Crowson	Special Ed teacher	20 years
Paula Ferrier	Adaptive Phy Ed	26 years
Julie Gettler	2nd grade teacher	27 years
Jim Hahler	6th grade teacher	30 years
Jane Hobbs	2nd grade teacher	33 years
Angie Johnson	2nd grade teacher	22 years
Dana Schott	1st grade teacher	21 years
Nancy Stewart	Vocal Music teacher	29 years
Chris Toft	1st grade teacher	28 years
Linda Zarling	Special Ed teacher	30 years

## KINGSLAND

### Retirement

Judy Rose	Elementary Librarian	21 years
Carole Helgerson	Elementary teacher	36 years
Mary Grems	Elementary teacher	39 years

# SSC building expands by 5,000 square feet

On May 1, the membership's investment in the SSC building will increase substantially, and so will its equity. With the purchase of a 5,000 square foot section on the south end of the building and located in a fast-growing area of the Rochester community, SSC's space will grow to 20,000 square feet of offices, warehouse, and conference center. The space is adja-

cent to the SSC meeting and training center.

No definite plans have been made for the space, which was previously occupied by Squires Electric. Plenty of opportunities and ideas have been offered up, and more are welcome. In the meantime, members visiting the Service Cooperative will enjoy the added parking space!



The **Cooperative Connection** is a publication of the Southeast Service Cooperative, published four times per year and distributed to members, associates, and the general public by request.

#### Southeast Service Cooperative

210 Wood Lake Drive SE  
Rochester, MN 55904  
Phone 507.288.1282  
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Office Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8 AM - 4:30 PM

For updated information  
and news, visit  
[www.ssc.coop](http://www.ssc.coop)

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Call toll free, 1.800.657.6996, then an option:

- 1 . . .Cooperative Purchasing
- 2 . . .Dental Reimbursement
- 3 . . .Staff Development
- 4 . . .EHSM
- 5 . . .Student Academics & Conferences

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**To send a fax dial 507.288.7663.**

#### SSC Staff

name	phone	email	service area
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