



Where Minnesota School Boards Learn to Lead

April 2023

Dear Superintendent,

Included you'll find information regarding learning opportunities for school board members, superintendents, and district staff. We encourage you to share these brochures at the district's next board meeting.

We look forward to partnering with Minnesota school districts.

Sincerely,

Minnesota School Boards Association

MINNESOTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

1900 West Jefferson Avenue, St. Peter, MN 56082-3015 Phone: 507-934-2450 or 800-324-4459
www.mnmsba.org

School Board Learning Opportunities



Managing Difficult Conversations with Colleagues and Constituents

Develop skills to better navigate disagreements and encourage a more constructive work environment

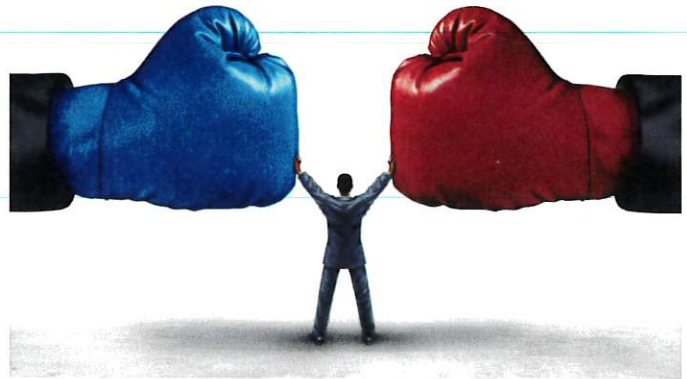
The “**Managing Difficult Conversations with Colleagues and Constituents**” workshop is being brought to you through a collaboration between **Braver Angels**, the League of Minnesota Cities, the Minnesota Association of Townships, the Minnesota School Boards Association, and the Association of Minnesota Counties.

Elected officials and staff frequently communicate with constituents and colleagues who hold different points of view.

As our communities grow more politically polarized and public dialogue becomes more confrontational, leaders need to develop skills to better navigate disagreements and encourage a more constructive work environment.

Working with colleagues from across the state and different areas of public service, you will learn new practical skills you can use immediately when a constituent or colleague challenges you on a policy or course of action. The workshop will provide you with tools to help mitigate the stress

Braver Angels



of difficult conversations and help you proceed with more confidence in your role as a leader. You will come away with strategies to better soften critics and find common ground in an increasingly divisive environment.

In-person sessions are scheduled for the following dates:

Wednesday, May 10 (1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) – Rochester

Wednesday, May 17 (1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) – St. Peter

Wednesday, May 24 (1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) – Staples

Wednesday, May 31 (1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) – St. Paul

Get more venue information and access registration for these Braver Angels workshops at <https://tinyurl.com/BraverAngels2023>.

Save the date!

Summer Leadership Seminar

Start the new school year informed and inspired.

The **2023 Summer Leadership Seminar** is scheduled for **Monday, August 7, 2023**, at the **Minneapolis Marriott Northwest** in **Brooklyn Park** (7025 Northland Drive North, Brooklyn Park).

The 2023 Summer Leadership Seminar will feature the following learning opportunities (all events will be held at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest hotel; times subject to change):

- **Sunday, August 6 (7 p.m. to 9 p.m.):** Early Bird Session (topic TBA)
- **Monday, August 7 (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.):** Summer Seminar (speakers and topics TBA)
- **Monday, August 7 (6 p.m. to 9 p.m.):** Learning to Lead — School Board Basics: Phase I Workshop
- **Tuesday, August 8 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.):** Leadership Foundations — School Finance and Management: Phase II Workshop

Visit <https://mnmsba.org/workshops-events/summer-seminar> to check for updates.

Webinars

Third Thursday Webinar Series

- **1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, May 18:** "The Board's Role in Student Achievement"
- **1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, June 15:** "Student Handbook"

Special Edition Webinar

- **1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, June 1:** "Update from MSBA Management and Government Relations Staff"

The Third Thursday Series is sponsored by Ehlers, Eide Bailly, InGensa, Sourcewell, and Widseth.

Recurring Virtual Meetings

Coffee & Conversation

Listening to and talking with your school board colleagues — and sharing what's working and what's not — is the purpose of the Coffee & Conversation virtual meeting series.

- **Target audience:** School board members
- **When:** Every other Tuesday of the month from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Visit MSBA website for schedule.
- **Zoom ID:** 825 8874 6538

This series is sponsored by PFM Asset Management.



Board Chair Chat

MSBA implemented this series of virtual Board Chair Chat sessions to focus conversations around the board chair's roles and responsibilities.

- **Target audience:** Board chairs and superintendents (who are welcome to share the Zoom information with entire board).
- **When:** First Wednesday of each month from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- **Zoom ID:** 899 8006 1897

Friday Chat Room

The Friday Chat Room offers MSBA members the opportunity to have an informal discussion with MSBA's Government Relations team.

- **Target audience:** School board members and superintendents
- **When:** Every Friday during the legislative session from 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
- **Zoom ID:** 878 6834 0142

