Upcoming State MASMS Events...

MASMS State Meeting
Tuesday January 8, 2013
Crowne Plaza Hotel,
Brooklyn Park MN

All MASMS members are invited to this State Meeting. It is a great opportunity to network with MASMS members from all Chapters and take part in two educational sessions.

Educational sessions:
#1—“The Basics of Capital Planning” presented by Brian Boelter & Dennis Sullivan, BLB Consulting
#2—“Crisis Communication and Issues Management for Public Schools”, presented by Stacy Bettison, Bettison Consulting

MASMS Committees will give updates on their activities, and a financial report will be presented.

Log on to the MASMS website to register.
Select member login.
Enter your username (your first initial, last name)
Enter your password (masms) Be sure to select “Member View”. Select “Meeting Registrations” and State Meeting. If you have problems logging into the site, just email the MASMS office at ruth@masms.org to register.

State Meeting Agenda
8:30  Registration
9:00  Educational Session
10:15 Educational Session
11:30 Legislative Update
12:00 Lunch
12:45 Business Meeting
1:15  Adjourn

See you January 8th at the MASMS State Meeting!

MASMS Day on the Hill
Tuesday February 12, 2013
Meet at the Crowne Plaza Hotel,
Brooklyn Park MN

MASMS does make a difference when our elected officials make decisions.

NEW THIS YEAR
Due to the importance of having a large group at the Capitol the February Metro Meeting will be the “Day on the Hill”!

We will be taking a bus to the Capitol—no more parking issues!
Speak directly with our legislators—it’s important for them to hear what school facilities need.

Log on to the MASMS website to register. Please register by February 5th, 2013:
Select member login. Enter your username (your first initial, last name), Enter your password (masms) Be sure to select “Member View”.
Select “Meeting Registrations” or click on “Day on the Hill” (you can register at either location).
If you have problems logging into the site, just email the MASMS office at ruth@masms.org to register.

When you register, please include your name, home address (determines your senator and representative) & phone number. If you have a relationship with your representative, and feel comfortable making the appointment to meet with them yourself, please indicate this.

Day on the Hill Schedule
9:15 AM  Crowne Plaza – Coffee and Rolls
9:30 AM  Review what the plans are for the day
9:45 AM  Board the bus to leave to the Capitol
10:30 AM  Arrive at the Capitol, meet with Reps
12:45 PM  Board the Bus to return to Crowne Plaza,
  Lunch Served on the Bus
1:15 PM  Back at the Crowne Plaza

Don’t miss this event!
NEW MASMS MEMBERS
Business Members
Tim Comer, Mint Roofing
Greg Ackerson, Apex Facility Solutions
Tom Godbout, EESCO United Electric

Just a note for those that missed the big one this year!
Bull Moose and Whitetail Bucks start to shed their antlers the first week of January!

12 Things to Look for While Conducting a Fire Door Inspection
Submitted by: Brainerd Overhead Door

1. Fuselinks cannot be painted
2. Fuselinks or other release device must be connected
3. Interior fire doors must have fuselinks/smoke detectors, with one on each side of the door.
4. Fuselinks and/or detection devices must be installed within 12” of the ceiling height, but never within 4” of corner walls.
5. Door, shutter or partition must not have any damage preventing it from working (example: dented hood, damaged or missing guides, damaged slats, etc.)
6. Cables & chains on suspended doors must not have any excessive wear or stretching.
7. Doors or partitions must not be blocked, propped or wedged in any manner that would prevent them from fully closing.
8. Egress actuating devices for egress fire doors must be functional during alarm conditions.
9. Testing agency and manufacturer information must be secured to the door by means of a label(s).
10. Written inspection records must be up to date. Yearly inspection records must be kept and made available to the authority having jurisdiction.
11. Repairs must be made using original manufacturer’s parts.
12. Repairs must be made without delay.

Get the latest information from leading experts to keep you ahead of the rest. Visit www.NorthernGreenExpo.org for a complete list of sessions and exhibitors!

GIVING YOU MORE
NEW REBATE SAVINGS

START 2013 OFF WITH NEW ENERGY-EFFICIENCY REBATE SAVINGS

We’ve added new rebates to our natural gas equipment rebate program to help you start the New Year off with money and energy savings – savings that continue year-round with better efficiency and an improved bottom line.

Rebate savings include:
- Boiler systems and boiler system components
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- Foodservice equipment
- Condensing water heaters
- Infrared heaters

For more details, contact Key Account Manager Paul Albinson at 612-321-4323 (800-234-5800, ext. 4323) or Paul.Albinsion@CenterPointEnergy.com CenterPointEnergy.com/BusinessRebates
Minnesota Association for Environmental Education and Minnesota Children and Nature Connection hosting:

Natural Playground Benefits and Elements

A FREE presentation / January 9 / 2-3:30 p.m. / Minnesota Department of Education (Roseville), Conference Center A

Natural playgrounds are intentionally-designed outdoor spaces that encourage kids to incorporate nature into their play. They may include things like rocks to scramble on, hills to climb, streams to dam, trees to balance on, and gardens to explore.

This interactive and very informative workshop explores natural, outdoor play environments through numerous pictures and exercises, and shows why children of all ages love them and find them both challenging and therapeutic. You will learn ways to significantly improve outdoor play and learning areas using readily available community and on-site resources. Come learn why natural playgrounds are safe, challenging, beautiful, and less expensive.

About the presenter:
Ron King, Architect, President of the Natural Playgrounds Design and Construction Companies, designs and constructs Natural Playgrounds throughout North America. The companies set the standard for the design and implementation of safe, beautiful, sustainable, and lower cost Natural Playgrounds. For decades, Ron has been fighting for the rights of all children to spend more time in natural play environments as a way of controlling obesity, improving overall well-being, and encouraging more interactive and integrated learning. BA Cornell University, Masters of Architecture, University of Pennsylvania. Member AIA.

Registration and directions:
Please RSVP for this free event (walk-ins are also welcome): http://www.minnesotace.org

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Bird Feeders
Keep different types of bird seed in separate feeders. Birds eating at mixed seed feeders throw out the seeds they don’t want while selecting their favorites, leading to a lot of wasted seed!
Direct Digital Controls Receives 2013 Alerton Platinum Dealer Award

Direct Digital Controls (MASMS member) is pleased to announce that they have been awarded the 2013 Alerton Platinum Dealer Award. The Platinum Dealer program is Alerton's prestigious recognition program aimed at driving peak performance and rewarding those dealers who go the extra mile. The owner of the company, Michael Day, who accepted the award in Texas last month says, “It is a great honor to be recognized as one of the top 15% among so many great companies”.

Platinum dealer status is scored throughout the year, by Alerton, and is based on outstanding performance in 5 key areas: growth, total sales, field devices mix, market share and percent past due. The program qualifiers are weighted to allow for both small and large dealers to qualify.

Alerton is a pioneer and an industry leader in providing building management solutions for heating, ventilation and air-conditioning equipment for all types and sizes of buildings. They have led the way in developing products based on a standard open communication protocol to give building owners flexibility in their building solutions. To find more information about Alerton, visit www.alerton.com

Direct Digital Controls, located in Minneapolis, MN, has just celebrated their 25 year anniversary with Alerton and are actively moving into their 26th year. Services include design, install and service of heating, ventilating, air conditioning and fire/smoke control systems of all kinds.

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Dave Sobaski - DSobaski@EccoMidwest.com
Jeff Dahl - JDahl@EccoMidwest.com
Andy Hines - AHines@EccoMidwest.com

Administration
Jennifer Hilsgen - JHilsgen@EccoMidwest.com

www.EccoMidwest.com

Looking for a Way to Thank Your Custodial, Maintenance & Grounds Staff?

Let them know they are appreciated - give them a day of learning, networking and fun!

2013 MASMS Custodial, Maintenance & Grounds Days

Metro Chapter—June 12th OR June 13th, 2013
Roseville Public Schools, Roseville Minnesota

Northern Chapter—June 18th, 2013
ROCORI Public Schools, Cold Spring, Minnesota

Southern Chapter—June 20th, 2013
Mankato Public Schools, Mankato Minnesota

Registration materials will be in your mail box in March!
As educational facilities often serve as the central hub for community events, a growing trend among district administrators and facility managers is to implement programs to better facilitate the use of school buildings by the community. For many districts, a successful community use and facilities rental program allows administrators and staff to have better control and oversight into events and activities taking place on school grounds.

These days, allowing the community to use school property is quite common; however, many districts are largely unaware of the added costs of hosting community activities. In a time when budgets are tight and resources are limited, community use of facilities can put serious strain on school staff as they are often ultimately responsible for coordination, operational and custodial support and set up for events.

Providing all these services and resources to the community – over and over at little or no cost – significantly affects the bottom line. In an effort to recoup additional expenses, schools and districts are using online programs to automating their community event approval and scheduling processes.

In doing so, school officials are able to improve efficiency by reducing the time required to manage and support outside activities, while also reducing excess energy use and resource costs through improved event coordination.

With automation, school officials can direct community groups to a single resource for requesting an event location, while also requiring that they provide enough details and information about insurance and services or support needed. With a formal process, school staff and facility managers can have a single, district-wide calendar to view the full picture of after-hours activities while distinguishing authorized users of facilities.

By improving the visibility of events, communication and coordination among departments can be dramatically improved, helping save time and money. Building or room temperatures and other operational controls can be coordinated with the facilities rental schedule; ensuring facilities are only conditioned when in use. School officials are also achieving savings by implementing rental fees and payment requirements for community use of schools. An appropriate facility rental fee structure can help offset and even fully recover the additional utility, staff and resource costs associated with outside events.

Community Use of Schools Proves Successful

For many districts, implementing a community use program poses significant obstacles. While the financial benefits are abundantly clear, managing and maintaining an effective community use of schools process can be challenging. Tumwater School District, in Tumwater, WA, uses an online scheduling system to help in coordinating the district’s community facility use program. With 10 school buildings serving more than 6,000 students, Tumwater hosts an average of 3,700 outside events and activities a year.

By using an online software program, the district has been able to save time and money with its event and facility scheduling process. “Before using the software program, it was difficult to keep track of events as scheduling was often controlled at a school level,” said Butch Sweet, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds.

As the approval process has been streamlined, the district is able to gain better oversight and improve efficiency among event support staff. “We trained the lead custodians to look at the events calendar as it helps them be better prepared for the day ahead and upcoming events,” said Kim Stutzman, Support Services Technician.

Additionally, managing and tracking payments from outside groups is made easier by using FSDirect, as invoices are easily updated and sent out via email. “Emailing out invoices has helped us save on paper and postage costs, while also making it easier for regular event organizers to stay on top of payments due,” says Stutzman.

Having easy access to data and information through the use of reports helps the department increase transparency and accountability. “If the administration wants information, I can share a report to show how we’re doing,” says Sweet. “That kind of access to data gives us 5-star credibility.”
Healthy Schools: More Than A Change In Menu

Submitted By: Ben Klawitter – Filtration Systems

When people talk about “Healthy Schools” the overwhelming topic is what food and beverages are available and what should not be available to the students. On average people will consume just over 2 pounds of food and 1 gallon of liquids any given day, but breathe nearly 3,000 gallons of air. Diet plays an important role in the health of our children and the quality of air plays another important part.

With the density of people in schools being higher than any other type of building the EPA and ASHRAE promote a minimum of 3 air changes per hour in classrooms during the school day. The reason for this is to ensure that enough clean filtered air is reaching the students because indoor air if left unfiltered or stagnate the particulate levels rise 2-5 times higher than outdoor air, making the environment up to 100 times worse. With the advent of Energy Recovery Units (ERUs) indoor air is being recirculated more and more, causing less outdoor air to be drawn into buildings to dilute the more particle filled indoor air.

Most new air handling equipment is specified to run with higher efficiency filters that will catch fine particles to help provide a healthy indoor environment. Over 95% of the particulate in the air is less than 1 micron in size – the smallest size particle visible to the naked eye is 100 microns, but due to ever tightening budgets many schools will not replace the more expensive high efficiency filters that came in this newer equipment. The minimum efficiency recommended by the EPA is Merv-8, but these filters are only tested on particles 3-10 microns in size, of which they must catch 70% or more; leaving the vast majority of and most harmful smaller particles pass directly through the filter!

When ASHRAE eliminated the old test standard for air filters 52.1-1992 it was because the Dust Spot Efficiency and Arrestance did not provide an adequate representation of the particles present in the air. This spurred the creation of the three particle size ranges filters are tested in with the current test standard 52.2-2007, which are .3-1 micron, 1-3 micron, and 3-10 micron. Now filters are able to be selected based on what particle size you are trying to capture, instead of the one size fits all measurement on 52.1. To protect equipment from damage the 3-10 micron range is of most concern, but to make sure we are providing a healthy indoor environment you need to pay attention to at least the 1-3 micron range.

With more attention paid to indoor air quality the new building standard is Merv-11 which captures 65% of particles in the 1-3 micron range. The US Green Building Council and their LEED program require Merv-13 which will capture 90% of particles in the 1-3 micron range. Merv-8 is not rated in the 1-3 micron range. Some air handling systems can easily be retrofitted to accommodate the higher efficiency filters or may already have the capability for them, while others take more serious renovation.

How healthy is healthy enough for your school?
“Environmentally-friendly”—the buzz words flying between school officials

What can you do to be more environmentally friendly with your school grounds maintenance program?

Go green by attending SFM’s “Winter Maintenance on School Grounds” workshop. SFM is partnering with the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and Bloomington Public Schools to provide an interactive, informative workshop that helps school Building and Grounds directors make proactive, cost-effective and safe choices in winter grounds management.

Who should attend?
Maintenance and Grounds directors; Custodians; Anyone needing to know more about winter grounds maintenance; Anyone looking to become more environmentally focused.

When
Two identical sessions
Session 1: Tuesday • Jan. 29, 2013 • 9 a.m. to noon
Session 2: Thursday • Feb. 7, 2013 • 9 a.m. to noon
Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Where
SFM’s headquarters at I-494 and France Avenue 6th floor training room, 3500 American Blvd. W, Bloomington, MN

Cost
No charge. Light snacks will be provided.

Register
Online: www.sfmic.com/policyholders/seminars or By Phone: (952) 838-4330

Questions?
Call SFM’s loss prevention team coordinator at (952) 838-4330.
The MASMS Memo Board

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Southern — Dave Hagen, Triton Schools
Metro — Don Hanson, South Washington County Schools

MASMS CALENDAR

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MASMS BOOT CAMP

The January 2013 Boot Camp is filled! If you would like to be on a wait list for a Summer 2013 boot camp, please email the MASMS office at ruth@masms.org

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