

# MSAN Professional Learning

The Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN) is a national coalition of multiracial public school districts working together to understand and eliminate racial opportunity/achievement gaps that persist in schools. To advance this shared mission, MSAN districts engage in collaborative research, share promising practices, and invest in professional learning. MSAN's Professional Learning agenda has three anchors: Communities of Practice, Conferences, and Online Resources.



MINORITY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT NETWORK

**Community of Practice Meetings** - MSAN itself is one large community of practice; smaller groups, also called communities of practice, meet face to face and virtually throughout the year, and have access to optional projects and interactions between meetings. Ad hoc leadership groups are also sometimes mobilized around specific issues, projects, and events.

MSAN coordinates three primary communities of practice:

- Superintendents of MSAN member districts (also known as the MSAN Governing Board),
- MSAN Research-Practitioner Council (district staff designated by MSAN superintendents), and
- MSAN Student Leaders and their Allies ("allies" include MSAN Student Conference chaperones and others designated by districts to engage in activities at the student conference and during the year)

**Conferences** - MSAN hosts two annual conferences:

- The MSAN Student Conference is a gathering of high school student leaders from MSAN member districts. Along with adult allies from their schools, delegates to the conference engage in discussions about equity in their districts and develop plans of action to share with decision makers in their districts.
- The MSAN Institute is a two-day intensive professional learning opportunity focused on sharing cutting-edge strategies for building leadership for equity and advancing culturally responsive practices. At the Institute, participants explore current research and promising practices with local and national experts, engage in district planning and job-alike conversations, and hear from students most affected by equity issues.

**Online Resources** - The MSAN website consists of a set of electronic resources on research, strategies, programs, and policies to assist school districts in eliminating racial barriers to student success. Resources include:

- Webpages created by members of the Research-Practitioner Council, that provide links to resources on the eight MSAN research and development areas;
- Links to videos and resources from past MSAN conferences and research presentations (MSAN Members Only);
- MSAN Research Briefs outlining research-based strategies and interventions for improving outcomes for students from underserved groups (MSAN Members Only)
- Demographic data on MSAN districts (MSAN Members Only)
- Enhanced search for members, including access to MSAN's Clearinghouse of Promising Practices (MSAN Members Only)

The professional learning agenda for MSAN consists of an annual plan with a focus area and calendar. It can be accessed online at <http://go.wisc.edu/MSANProfessionalLearning>. The plan, collaboratively developed with MSAN stakeholders, includes a Professional Learning Calendar for the school year; see below for this year's calendar.



# Professional Learning Calendar 2017-2018

**MINORITY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT NETWORK**

**Focus Area for 2017-2018:** Increasing the number of students of color enrolled and succeeding in advanced learning opportunities

Activity	Date	Topic	Available to
MSAN Student Conference Chaperones Community of Practice, Fall Check-In	September 30, 2017	Pre-Conference Training Call/Check-In	MSAN Members
Annual MSAN Student Conference	October 18-21, 2017	MSAN Scholars Equity Leadership Training, Create 2017-18 Action Plans for Districts Student Conference Chaperones Community of Practice Meetings & Presentations	MSAN Members
MSAN Fall Webinar	November 9, 2017	Developing MSAN Programming at the Middle School Level - Learning from Buckeye Elementary School District (AZ)	Public
Superintendents' Community of Practice/Governing Board, Fall Meeting	November 29-30, 2017	Community of Practice Retreat Community of Practice Activities: District Equity Presentations/Best Practices Exchange; Research Presentation; Superintendents' Equity Leadership Conversation; Student Conference/Action Plan Update, Yearly Focus Area Update	MSAN Members
Research-Practitioner Council Community of Practice, Fall Meeting	November 30-December 1, 2017	Community of Practice Retreat Community of Practice Activities: Equity Leadership Toolkit; District Equity Presentations/Best Practices Exchange; Research Presentation; Equity Leadership Conversation; Topical Workgroups; Student Conference/Action Plan Update, Yearly Focus Area Update	MSAN Members
MSAN Student Conference Chaperones Community of Practice, Winter Check-In	January 9, 2018	Winter Updates on Action Plans	MSAN Members
Annual MSAN District Site Visit	March 5-7, 2018	Site Visit to Evanston Township High School District 202	MSAN Members

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# Professional Learning Calendar

2017-2018, continued

**Focus Area for 2017-2018:** Increasing the number of students of color enrolled and succeeding in advanced learning opportunities

Activity	Date	Topic	Available to
Annual MSAN Institute	April 26-27, 2018	Building Leadership for Equity and Advancing Culturally Responsive Practices	Public
MSAN Spring Webinar	TBD	Dr. Joy Davis <i>Keys to Enhancing Service Delivery for Diverse Populations of Gifted Students</i>	Public
Superintendents' Community of Practice/Governing Board, Spring Meeting	May 22-23, 2018	Community of Practice Activities: District Equity Presentations/Best Practices Exchange; Research Presentation; Superintendents' Equity Leadership Conversation; Student Conference/Action Plan Update; Yearly Focus Area Update; Administer Program Planning Survey	MSAN Members
Research-Practitioner Council Community of Practice, Spring Meeting	May 23-24, 2018	Community of Practice Activities: Equity Leadership Toolkit; District Equity Presentation/Best Practices Exchange; Research Presentation; Equity Leadership Conversation; Topical Workgroups; Student Conference/Action Plan Update; Annual Focus Area Update; Administer Program Planning Survey	MSAN Members
MSAN Student Conference Chaperones Community of Practice, Summer Check-In	June, 2018	Spring Updates on Action Plans Prep for 2018 Student Conference	MSAN Members
Onboarding of New Members	Ongoing	Intro to MSAN; Intro to GB/RPC Communities of Practice	MSAN Members
MSAN InfoShare	Ongoing	Pose a question to colleagues for answers from MSAN member districts	MSAN Members
Online Resources	Ongoing	Including Resources Website compiled by members of the MSAN Research-Practitioner Council, Materials from recent MSAN conferences, and the most recent <i>MSAN Minute</i> newsletter	Public
Members-Only Web Resources	Ongoing	Includes materials from all past MSAN conferences, specialized search functions, and access to MSAN district data	MSAN Members