APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date of Submission:	
District Name:	
Address	
City/State/Zip Code	
Website Address	
Name of Superintendent:	
Phone	
Email	
Person completing application:	
Title	
Phone	
Email	

PART ONE: District Data

Please provide a brief overview of your district's demographic data.

Most recent official district enrollment	
Year	

Number and Percent of Students who identify their Ethnicity/Race as:

	Number	Percentage
Hispanic/Latino		
American Indian or Alaska Native		
Asian		
Black or African American		
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		
White		
Two or More Races		

Number/Percentage of students in your district eligible for:

	Number	Percentage
ESL/ELL/Bilingual services		
Free and/or Reduced lunch price		
Special Education services		

Number of Schools in your District

Elementary Schools	
Middle Schools / Junior High	
High Schools	
Alternative Schools	
Other	

Additional Demographic Data

Please provide a brief response to the following questions. Place your answer in the text boxes provided. *If you have supporting material please send it along with the completed application.*

1. What is the overall achievement level of all students in your district compared with state wide average performance?
2. Have the schools in your district ever been part of a court ordered or voluntary desegregation plan?
3. What is the per-pupil funding for your district? How does this compare with your state average funding?

*Please provide an overview of the most recent <u>state</u> test results disaggregated by racial/ethnic group for reading/language arts and mathematics.

*As appropriate, submit other evidence of achievement/opportunity gap issues in your district (e.g., over-representation of students of color receiving special education services, under-representation of students of color enrolled in Honors course, etc.).

---Please continue to PART TWO of the application.---

PART TWO: Narrative

Please provide responses to the following questions. Place your answers in the text boxes provided. If you need additional space, please attach a Word document to the application.

1) What has your district done/is currently doing to increase the achievement levels of students of color?

2) How will membership in MSAN assist your district's efforts?

3) How might your district contribute to the equity work already being initiated by the MSAN organization?

4) Describe your district's relationship with a university or other research group in your area related to student achievement.

* Please read the **MSAN Member Expectations & Obligations** listed below. Include with this application an email/memo from the superintendent indicating that she/he has read and accepts the obligations associated with participation in the Network.

Please submit all application materials electronically to the MSAN Project Manager, Connie Showalter at connie.showalter@wisc.edu.

MEMBER EXPECTATIONS & OBLIGATIONS

Governing Board
The MSAN Governing Board (GB) is made up of the superintendents of MSAN districts, the MSAN Executive Director, and the Co-Conveners of the Research Practitioner Council (RPC). The Governing Board meets three times per year and all superintendents are expected to attend. <u>Substitutes (i.e., delegates) cannot sit in on the meeting for the superintendent</u>. Additionally, an Executive Committee made up of the Governing Board officers and elected at-large superintendents will meet to carry out the work of MSAN and refer items to the full Governing Board for review and action. Each district pays travel and lodging expenses for Governing Board meetings. Meals and other costs are covered by MSAN.

Research Practitioner Council
Each district identifies two (2) educators to serve as members of the MSAN Research Practitioner Council (RPC). RPC members are typically assistant superintendents, professionals from a district's research and testing staff, curriculum staff, equity or diversity staff, or other professionals who are knowledgeable of and influence research and curriculum policy. This group also meets three times per year. Each district pays travel and lodging expenses for RPC meetings. Meals and other costs are covered by MSAN.

Local MSAN Team
Each district is encouraged to identify and maintain a core team of educators beyond GB and RPC members. These individuals will assist in disseminating MSAN information across the district and to serve as advisors on local MSAN efforts. The organization and structure of this team is at the discretion of the local district.

School Board Assembly
At different times during MSAN's history, school board members from across MSAN have convened to discuss their work in developing board policy that ensures district-wide equity and excellence. As needed, each MSAN District is asked to assign one school board member to act as a liaison between MSAN and the local school board.

Annual Membership Fee and Assessment
A membership fee will be invoiced annually. The fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. The current membership fee of $15,000 per district was adopted by the Governing Board in May 2022. Prompt payment of the annual fee is appreciated since MSAN uses these funds for current year expenses.

Local Fund Raising
Local fund raising to support MSAN's efforts and projects is strongly encouraged but not required. MSAN is able to collaborate with individuals and groups of member districts to seek federal and/or foundation grants to support specialized projects related to issues of achievement/opportunity gaps. Historically, individual donors from local districts have been generous in their support of MSAN.

Professional Development
MSAN Institute
A team of six (6) staff from each member district including the superintendent are invited to attend the annual MSAN Institute. The focus of the MSAN Institute is twofold: developing equity-focused leadership and ensuring cultural competence. Registration costs for six (6)

attendees from each district are included in MSAN fees. A reduced registration fee is charged for each attendee above the six (6). Non-MSAN districts pay a full registration fee.

Member districts are expected to contribute their experience and expertise to the content of all of MSAN's professional development offerings. Districts are asked to share promising practices show to be effective relative to the focus or theme of the MSAN Institute or Mini-Conferences.

Student Leadership Development
Annual MSAN Student Conference
A team consisting of eight (8) high school students, grades 10 through 12, and two (2) adult chaperones from each member district attends the Annual MSAN Student Conference. Registration and lodging expenses are included in MSAN fees. Local districts pay travel costs for students and chaperones attending the Student Conference. A registration fee is charged for each attendee above the first ten (10) participants.

Participation in Research and Data Collection
MSAN districts are expected to participate in common research projects. In most cases participation will be at the discretion of the local district but there will be times when the Governing Board may elect to engage all member districts in a research project. All research findings are the property of MSAN and other parties as specified by funding agencies. Measures will be taken to protect student and teacher confidentiality. A core value of the network is the importance of teacher led, teacher informed research. Teachers of member districts will be expected to participate in such research and to share their findings with member districts.

It is the intent of MSAN to freely share its research findings, achievement data, and other data related to achievement/opportunity gaps. To this end, all member districts are expected to contribute to two Network-wide databases: 1) the MSAN Clearinghouse of Promising Practices and 2) the MSAN Shared District Database.

The *Clearinghouse of Promising Practices* was developed to promote the extension and replication of practices and programs across MSAN districts that have shown promise in closing achievement/opportunity gaps. The Clearinghouse is meant to streamline and inform local district research and development and enhance networking among various district roles (e.g., literacy coaches, principals, etc.). Information from these databases will be referred to often and reported freely in MSAN publications, grant applications, and conferences.

The *MSAN Shared District Database* is comprised of disaggregated student enrollment and achievement data including, but not limited to state achievement test data, ACT, SAT and other relevant nationally-normed tests given by the district, drop out and/or graduation rates, district and school enrollment rates, and student course selection data (e.g., 8th and 9th grade algebra, AP and or International Baccalaureate course enrollment).

Membership Inactivity
Active participation by GB and RPC members in Network activities is an expectation of membership. If representatives from a district are not able to participate in primary Network activities including Governing Board meetings, RPC meetings, the MSAN Institute, Mini-Conferences, or the Student Conference for more than 24 months the district will be considered inactive and reconsideration of membership initiated. The success of a network such as ours is the active participation of all members.

(Updated 11/2/2022)