

MOSPRA Ozarks Region Newsletter



April 2016

Dear MOSPRA friends,

It's hard for me to believe we're a few short weeks away from the end of the school year. While many of our teachers, students, and parents are counting down the days, the school PR folks I know have already turned their attention to the count up to a successful 2016-2017 school year. Because you're awesome (and weird) like that!

For our April session, we have the pleasure of hearing from our MOSPRA Superintendent of the Year Dr. John Jungmann and his communications guru Teresa Bledsoe. Dr. Jungmann is superintendent and Teresa is the communications director for Springfield Public Schools. They will share information about Dr. Jungmann's first two years with the district and how he and the communications team worked together to involve and inform their stakeholders. This perspective from the superintendent's seat regarding the role of communication will provide useful insight as we plan ahead for the next school year.

Presenters: Dr. John Jungmann and Teresa Bledsoe

Wednesday, April 27

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Ozark Schools Administration Building

302 North 4th Ave., Ozark

Lunch will be \$8.

[RSVP and pay for lunch at this link by Tuesday, April 26.](#) (Click the green "Get Tickets" button.)

This will help us with our planning and lunch order. Please email me if you have any trouble with the RSVP.

May meeting - let's celebrate a successful school year!

For our May meeting, we would like to host a casual after-hours networking event to mark the end of the school year and to share stories and celebrations. We are tentatively scheduling the event for Thursday, May 26. The current plan is beverages in downtown Springfield followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. We may also open the invitation to other regions. Please help us gauge the interest in this event by taking our extremely brief survey below! This would replace the May 25 meeting.

[May Event Interest Survey](#)

Congratulations to our own Ben Fisher!



Ben Fisher, director of communications for Reeds Spring Public Schools, was named the Missouri School Public Relations Association's 2016 New Professional of the Year at the annual Spring Conference held March 30 - April 1 at the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, Missouri.

Ben is in his first year as the Reeds Spring communications director.

The primary criteria for the New Professional of the Year Award is that the recipient be employed at least half time in the field of public relations and have exhibited a creative, dedicated, and professional approach to school public relations.

Michael Mason, superintendent for Reeds Spring Public Schools, wrote in his letter of nomination, "When our district decided to hire a full-time communications professional for this school year, we were searching for someone who would be able to raise the profile of Reeds Spring Schools. Mr. Ben Fisher has done that faster and more effectively than we imagined. Ben has become a trusted advisor for me. He lets me know how my decisions are likely to be received by parents, patrons, and the media. I believe he will continue to do his best to protect and promote this district, which is all, and more, than I expected."

We're proud of you Ben - well deserved!

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Joplin Schools, 310 W. 8th Street, Joplin, MO 64801

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