

Executive Director,  
Steve Kwikkel  
President,  
Marc McCoy  
President-Elect,  
Brad Buck  
Treasurer,  
Matt DeBaene  
Secretary,  
Bev Maronn  
MWR Conference Chair,  
Deborah Rose  
Newsletter Editor,  
Keri Schlueter  
Website Editor,  
Sandy DeSchinckel  
Membership and Building  
Reps. Coordinator,  
Vicki Westerly  
Directors-At-Large,  
Vacant  
Directors:  
Central Region,  
Mary Decker  
Northwest Region,  
Pauline Zabka  
Southeast Region,  
Amanda Stablein  
Southwest Region,  
Vacant  
Northeast Region,  
Bill Sousse

## President's Message

### *Happy "New Year"!*

Is it just me or does summer fly by faster and faster with each passing year? Ready or not, the new school year is upon us! Once again into the fray!

Like many of you, I try to reflect, renew, and recommit to middle level education each summer. This year, I had the privilege of attending the National Middle School Association's Institute for Middle Level Leadership in Breckenridge, Colorado. Being a jaded, "seasoned" vet, I tend to approach most seminars, conferences, and workshops with a pretty cynical mindset - "been there - done that". I figured if I was going to have to sit through a bunch of boring meetings, at least I was in the beautiful Colorado Rockies. Holy Moly was I wrong! (No, not about the Rockies; they're still there!) The Institute was one of the best learning and sharing experiences I've had in many, many years. About 200 middle level educators from all over the world - teachers, principals, professors, and others - came together to share best practices. Middle level folks tend toward the gregarious and social, so the networking was easy and great fun. I was sure I'd have to buy another suitcase just to bring back all the information I gathered on differentiated instruction, teaming, literacy, diversity, and a host of other topics.

One of the resources that I'd not seen before was the NMSA's Professional Development Kit - "Understanding and Implementing This We Believe - First Steps". WOW! Whether your school is just embarking on the road to middle school or you're in an established, exemplary middle school, this book has a wealth of ideas and activities to fire up any staff. One of the



articles I especially liked was one entitled "What Does it Mean to be Thirteen?" by Chris Stevenson. It was published in 1998 as a part of the second celebration of the Month of the Young Adolescent. Here's an excerpt that I'm sure we'll use at my school:

*Young adolescents know they are changing. They have to make many adjustments as they move from childhood toward adulthood and confront physical, emotional, and social changes. They speculate a lot privately about what is going on.*

Some of them are afraid of it all, and self-confidence is especially vulnerable. Some of the questions they think about and which can provoke helpful discussion with trusted adults follow:

What do I know about...

- myself as a learner?
- my special abilities and talents?
- what is excellent work?
- how can I produce excellence?
- how to organize my learning?
- what is difficult for me to learn? To do?
- how can I get help? Give help?
- most effective ways for me to learn?
- teaching that helps me learn?
- teaching that doesn't work for me?
- working alone? Working with others?
- how can I become more successful?
- how am I growing? Changing? Improving?

What a great place to start conversations with kids!

Keep NMSA.org bookmarked and watch for next year's Leadership Institute!

Have a GREAT year, Middle Level Educators!

Marc McCoy

### Highlights of this issue:

Midwest Regional Information .....	page 2
Burn the Ships .....	page 3
Wise Reflections .....	page 4

### Topics for the next issue:

- Regional Conferences
- Call for Board Nominations
- Summer Camp Information

presents

## IAMLE Middle Level Educator of the Year, 2005

The Iowa Association for Middle Level Education is proud to announce Cathy Frajman's selection as Iowa's "Middle Level Educator of the Year" for 2005.

Cathy is a long-time middle level educator in Iowa, having begun her career Charles City, and now practicing in the Davenport public schools. Cathy teaches special education, has coached volleyball, and is a two-time recipient of the Davenport Schools "HUG" (Helping Us Grow) Award.

In nominating Cathy for this award, colleague Carri Sawyer said:

*Mrs. Frajman exemplifies what every teacher strives for in their career. She is able to get students to reach levels of independence far beyond anyone's expectations. Mrs. Frajman creates lessons that are captivating and motivating at each students level. Mrs. Frajman has taught students with a wide spectrum of mental and physical disabilities. She continues to research information on specific disorders and stays current with laws regarding special education that may affect her students. Her patience and understanding has made her classroom a positive learning environment.*

IAMLE's Educator of the Year Award is given annually in honor of long-time educator and middle level advocate R. Paul Brim. Presentation of the award is made at the Midwest Regional Middle Level Conference. This year's MWR will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, October 13-14.

Thank you to  
QSP/Reader's Digest  
for sponsoring this award!

## On-Line Research from NMSA

Steve Kwikkel – Executive Director

Is your school district considering a realignment which may impact your current middle school grade configuration? Are you considering gender-like classrooms? Need information on advisory programs? Would you like more information on flexible scheduling or interdisciplinary teaming? Do you have parents that question the effectiveness of the middle school philosophy? If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, help may be just a mouse click away. The National Middle School Association (NMSA) has a wealth of information and resources at your disposal. Simply go to [www.nmsa.org](http://www.nmsa.org) and from the menu on the left side of the page click on "Research" and you're there. Over the years I've used this resource countless times and have always been able to find the information I needed. As another new school year begins, and you're in need of timely and accurate information on effective middle school practices, point your mouse to the NMSA webpage and check out this free service. You won't be disappointed!



## Month of the Young Adolescent

October is the Month of the Young Adolescent, an annual national collaborative effort of education, health, and youth-oriented organizations. Initiated by National Middle School Association (NMSA), Month of the Young Adolescent brings together a wide range of organizations to focus on

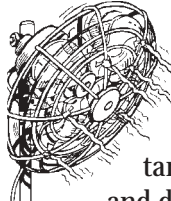
the needs of this important age range, ages 10- 15. NMSA offers several ideas for your school and community to get involved. Visit the website for articles, sample press releases, and more information, [www.nmsa.org](http://www.nmsa.org).

### WAYS TO GET INVOLVED FOR SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES

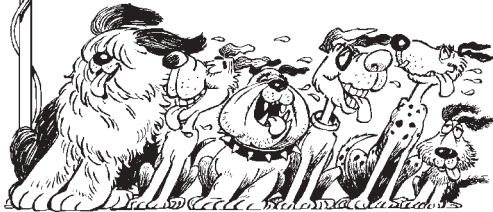
- Celebrate the Month of the Young Adolescent with a kick-off party.
- Plan weekly activities for parents and students such as a carnival night, an open house, a math game night, a read aloud night or a crafts night.
- Have local places of worship hold informational services concerning the importance of adolescents in the community.
- Encourage local businesses to have an open house and share information concerning future career opportunities.
- Suggest that local community organizations offer open recreation times.
- Ask local medical facilities to offer free health screenings for young adolescents and their families.
- Provide informational nights at the local school, highlighting the diverse needs of young adolescents.
- Work with young adolescents to create a community garden.
- Organize a mentor program for young adolescents in your community
- Visit, tutor or volunteer at your local middle school.
- Learn to celebrate all of the good things that young adolescents can bring to your community.
- Urge your community to proclaim October as the Month of the Young Adolescent.

# The sun doesn't shine on the same dog's rump every day. Trust me!

Steve Kwikkel – Executive Director



On July 1<sup>st</sup> we made a 1,200 mile journey to Salt Lake City, Utah. Vacation? Yep! But perhaps more importantly, at least for mom and dad, was the chance to watch our oldest daughter compete in the *2005 USA Junior Olympic Girls' Volleyball Championships*. Since fifth grade we've watched Ally compete on three different club



teams and have literally spent countless hours on bleachers across the country. We've experienced a lot of highs and lows during those hours on the bleachers and the car rides home.

While I wish I could say there was a happy ending and the team won their division's championship, it's not. In fact, the girls struggled. Definitely not the team we watched back in April who then, in a qualifier in Des Moines, beat two very good Iowa teams whom they had not beaten in over a year in order to earn a trip to Nationals. Keep in mind this team has talent. At least six of the nine girls will go either Division I or II in volleyball and three of the girls had their high school teams make it to the state tournament the

past two years. Despite their individual talents and accomplishments as a team, the volleyball gods who smiled on them in April, were definitely NOT on vacation in Salt Lake City in July!

Printed below is an excerpt from the original letter from the editor as it appeared in the *Junior Journal*. Another year of sports in our schools is just around the corner. All of us will be fortunate enough to see a lot of wonderful moments in our own sports programs. However, I'm sure we'll all experience some of the usual headaches as well. Take from this what you will – share it with your coaches and parents if you like. I know I will.

Have a great year everyone!

## Junior Journal

A letter from the Editor

For many of the people who traveled to Salt Lake City for this year's Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Tournament this journey is over. If you look only at results then most of the 11,500 girls will be disappointed with their experience. But for most of these athletes, coming to this event is about more than a national title. Make no mistake about it - every girl on every team wants to win, almost as much as every coach who has dedicated countless hours to teaching, counseling and supervising. But they are not defined by their wins or losses. Instead, this experience will show them what they're made of - good and bad. They will learn that they didn't prepare enough, that someone else worked harder, that often underdogs lose, and that being the most talented doesn't always mean winning the most matches.

They will learn that they can push themselves farther than they



ever thought possible. They will learn that there are places and people they never knew existed, and that they are more alike than different. They will learn that overcoming differences isn't easy, but that it's necessary to succeed. They will learn that doing what's best for the group can be lonely, hurtful, unappreciated, critical, and ultimately the most rewarding act possible in sports and also in life. They will learn that fatigue really does make cowards out of all of us, and that coaches, no matter what mom and dad say, have

something to teach us. They will learn that they are lucky to be playing in a club that achieved this level of success. They are lucky they have parents that can pay the dues that allow them access to opportunities that some never have. They will learn that they can't have everything that they want and that desire can feed many behaviors- some destructive and some constructive.

It will be up to them to decide if hunger will make them heroes or thieves. They will learn so many lessons about sports and life and people that it is impossible to detail them all. For like the girls, those lessons are as varied as the individuals who internalize them, use them and ultimately pass them on. Don't let one success be the fence around your life. Don't let one failure be the end of your effort. Just as we are not defined by one trait, don't let your life be determined by one accomplishment. This is a stepping-stone, a way to see better things, and be a better, stronger person.



## Wise Reflections

At the start of the school year, it is hard for me to not to become reflective on my previous experiences in the teaching profession. This is the beginning of my sixth year in education, and like many educators before me, I have run the gamut from feeling incompetent to invulnerable. Despite any successes and failures I have incurred as a new teacher, I have developed my own ideals that keep me optimistic and excited about middle level education. Recently, I have gone through some notes and journals that I have kept since entering teaching. The following is summary of a collection of notes and journals which I have kept throughout my brief career.

I will never forget my first parent-teacher meeting. The parent was desperately looking to provide structure for her child. While talking, she turned to me and asked what I would do as a parent. What a shock! At twenty-two and fresh out of college, I was not prepared to think like a parent. I became aware of the responsibility that effective middle school teachers have in providing a parental model and structure to many students. This is a great responsibility for all educators to be role models, disciplinarians, and a caring soul all at the same time. We need to embrace this role and take every advantage to model what it is like to be the better person and a life long learner.

In correlation with proper modeling, establishing procedures and adhering to them, yet not being afraid to deviate when appropriate, is an essential part of middle school. My students know how I will start and end each class period. As soon as I do not follow those procedures, I have a classroom filled with confused seventh graders feeling without direc-

tion. The lesson is that you, as a middle school teacher, set the tone and the climate for your classroom. It is very easy to blame parents or the elementary school, but when we



model and provide structure, success is quick to follow. There are many factors in a child's life which we cannot control, but we can always control what we do.

The first time I realized my passion for middle school

was when I was able to have an intelligent, adult level conversation with a twelve year old, and then turn around and bribe them with a sticker. These students are suspended between a kid's world and an adult's world. At the same time, they are trying to find and express themselves. The consequence for educators is that we often have to teach social skills more times than our own curriculum, and I embrace this. So go ahead, middle school educators, feel free to think outside of language arts, history, or science. There are so many teachable moments; take advantage of them. It will remind you of why you got into teaching in the first place. You are not just a teacher of your curriculum; you are a teacher of all disciplines and life.

Two years ago I was monitoring the hallway during the second week of school. A new sixth grader came skipping through the hallway and stopped in front of me. After looking me up and down, he patted my stomach and said, "Suck it in man." and then cheerfully went back to skipping down the hallway. I had two choices, discipline the student for the

insult or take it in the good humor in which it was intended. Although a sense of humor and flexibility may seem as common sense to most veteran teachers, it is something which does not come naturally. Middle school students come with many issues and emotions. Each day is different and as educators, we must be able to be flexible to the needs of our students. Face the facts, middle school students will forget what you just said and thus need more tutorial, and fart noise is not worth an office referral. Middle school teachers are most successful and happy when they can easily adapt and laugh about it.

After a week of teaching middle school students, it feels good to listen to calm music and drink tea. But, I challenge all teachers to do a quick survey. Ask students and staff if they know the Rolling Stones, and we all will yell a triumphant, "yes!" Ask the same group if they know System of a Down and you will only hear the students yell. In fact, if you listen carefully you can hear the students become very excited. My point is that our students know us better than we know them, so let's use this to our advantage and "trick" them into learning. I challenge middle school teachers to take the time to watch channels like Fuse or MTV until the headache sets in. Ask a student if you can look through the magazine that they have been reading for three months. Popular culture is one of our greatest tools to get students to learn. Research what is cool and then see if you can use it in your lesson plans. Your students will appreciate it, and you will find out that you are not as lame as your students say you are. Ok, maybe you're still lame, but you have the tools to disguise it.

We are teaching a generation whose entertainment is completely interactive. There are chat rooms, email, video games, and even DVD's that allow the user to become one

*continued*



## Northeast Section

### “Burn the Ships”

All great success initially begins with an idea, but what makes ideas become reality is the fuel of human desire.

An idea by itself can give you a temporary feeling of inspiration, but burning desire is what gets you through all the perspiration necessary to overcome the inevitable obstacles that pop up along the way.

Take a moment to think about the goals you have set for this school year. How committed are you to achieving these goals? Were they just made to satisfy your administrator or are you serious about them? Under what conditions would you give up? What if you could significantly increase your desire to achieve these goals? What if you wanted them so badly that you knew with certainty that you would absolutely, positively never give up? When you are truly 100% committed to reaching your goals, you move from hoping to knowing. If you want something badly enough, then quitting is simply not an option. You either find a way or make one. You pay the price, whatever it takes.

Those with an intense burning desire to achieve their goals are often referred to as being “driven.” Is this special quality reserved for a few? Certainly not. With the right approach, anyone can cultivate a deep burning desire within themselves and move to a constant state of commitment, knowing with certainty that success is as inevitable as each morning’s sunrise.

So how do you cultivate burning desire? You begin by altering your environment in ways that will strengthen your resolve while eliminating doubt. How do you do this? The first and foremost thing you must do is to “burn the ships.”

If your goals are really important enough to you, then you can start by burning the proverbial ships, such that you have no choice but to press on. In



the classic book The Art of War, Sun Tzu notes that soldiers fight the most ferociously when they believe they’re fighting to the death. A good general knows that when attacking an opposing force, it’s important to create the illusion of a potential escape route for the enemy, so they won’t fight as hard. What escape routes are you keeping open that are causing you not to fight as hard?

If you don’t burn the ships, you are sending the message to your subconscious mind that it is okay to quit. When the going gets tough, as it does for any worthwhile goal, you will quit. If you really want to achieve your goals, then you’ve got to burn the ships to the ground and scatter the ashes. If you’re thinking the average teacher won’t do this, you’re right – that’s why they’re average.

Bill Soesbe  
NE Sectional Director

### Greetings from the Central Director

Hello all, I am Mary Decker, your Central Sectional Director.

I hope everyone has had a safe and restful summer. A healthy mind, body and spirit is essential for working with those in the middle. The new school year always brings a promise of new adventure. I am available to you as a middle level resource. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. If I can’t help you, I can sure help get the answers for you. Take care of yourself: exercise, breath deeply, laugh, talk to friends, prioritize and simplify. Have a great year!

Mary Decker:  
mary.decker@dmps.k12.ia.us

with the movie. We need to keep up with the competition. If you are having a hard time getting students to come in, sit down, and start reading it is probably because your students are use to something that is more interactive and tailored to them. To combat this, we must allow movement in our class, provide materials they can touch and use, and always allow time for them to converse about what they are doing. There is a kid sitting in your class who would love to spend a Friday night rewiring the stereo that you barely know how to use. Find a way to incorporate hands-on activities, and you will reach more students than you thought possible.

During the school day, you will have to repeat yourself not only to your students but to your colleagues. Teaming is a valuable part of the middle school philosophy and should be taken as sacred time. Educators are all different, and we should embrace those differences instead of harboring dangerous, competitive natures. Consider yourself lucky if everyone on your team has a different idea. Different people and ideas spark new ideas and practices. Each member of your team has a different talent, so utilize it.

When I was buying my first home, the mortgage lender had to ask me several questions before approving my loan. When she asked what I did for a living I happily told her teaching. She seemed delighted and said how she always thought about becoming a teacher and asked what grade I taught. When she found out I teach seventh grade, her head kicked back and a slacked-jawed look came across her face. She asked me how I could stand to teach “those kids.” I politely told her,

*“Because I know I make a difference in someone’s life every time I go to work.”*

Matt DeBaene



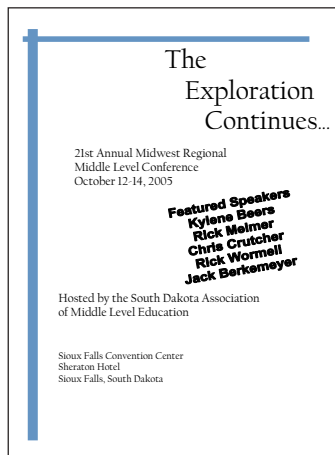
# The Exploration Continues...

## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Midwest Regional Middle Level Conference

October 12-14, 2005

Hosted by the South Dakota Association of Middle Level Education

Sioux Falls Convention Center  
Sheraton Hotel  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota



Conference at a Glance  
Wednesday, October 12, 2005

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Registration  
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm General Session 1 – Jack Berckemeyer

Thursday, October 13, 2005

7:00 am – 4:00 pm Registration and Exhibits Open  
8:00 am – 9:30 am General Session – Kylee Beers  
9:30 am – 10:00 am Break to Visit Exhibits  
10:00 am – 10:55 am Breakout I  
11:10 am – 12:05 pm Breakout II  
12:05 pm – 1:15 pm Luncheon Speaker – Rick Melmer  
1:15 pm – 1:30 pm Visit Exhibits  
1:30 pm – 2:25 pm Breakout III  
2:40 pm – 3:35 pm Breakout IV  
3:35 pm – 4:00 pm Visit Exhibits  
4:00 pm State Meetings & Social

Friday, October 14, 2005

7:00 am – 1:00 pm Registration and Exhibits Open  
8:00 am – 9:30 am General Session – Rick Wormeli  
9:15 am – 12:00 pm Action Lab – Washington Pavilion  
9:30 am – 10:00 am Break to Visit Exhibits  
10:00 am – 10:55 am Breakout I  
11:10 am – 12:05 pm Breakout II  
12:05 pm – 1:15 pm Luncheon Speaker – Chris Crutcher  
1:15 pm – 1:30 pm Visit Exhibits  
1:15 pm – 3:30 pm Action Labs – Washington Pavilion  
1:30 pm – 2:25 pm Breakout III  
2:25 pm – 2:40 pm Break to Visit Exhibits  
2:40 pm – 3:35 pm Breakout IV

Please register early. Registration fee must be paid by check or money order.

Meals are included in registration fee.

### Breakout Sessions

Expand your understanding and practice of middle level education and network with like-minded educators at the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Midwest Regional Middle Level Conference. Hear from both experts and practitioners. Whether you're a staff developer, teacher or administrator – whether you're experienced with middle level education or just beginning, you're sure to find numerous sessions at the conference that meet your professional learning needs. This year there will be special round table sessions for coaches, exploratory teachers, and counselors. The committee worked hard to include sessions to meet the unique needs of those attending this conference.



### Action Labs

Action Labs will not take place at the Convention Center but will be held at other locations. Bussing will be provided for

participants to and from the Action Lab sessions. An extra fee and advance registration are required for those who wish to attend the Action Labs.

### The Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science

This action lab showcases the beautiful Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science, the region's premiere entertainment, cultural, and educational facility. Fly the space shuttle, dig up a dinosaur, or touch a tornado while exploring the three floors of exciting, hands-on adventures at the Kirby Science Discovery Center. Or, at the Wells Fargo Cinedome, experience a movie that is so real you'll think you are part of the action. The Pavillion's Visual Arts Center features six galleries of regional and national contemporary visual arts exhibits and a hands-on children's gallery. This action lab will be available Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.

### EROS Data Center

The Earth Resource Observation Systems (EROS) Data Center is a field center for many programs and activities of the US Geological Survey's National Mapping Program. The Center operates an archive with more than 9 million photographs of the US taken from aircraft and more than 4 million worldwide images acquired by sensors aboard several satellites. Teachers will hear from a cartographer, tour the facility, and receive educational materials. This action lab will only be available Thursday afternoon.



Check out our  
[website www.iamle.org](http://www.iamle.org)  
for registration materials and  
information about the  
featured speakers.

Click on "Upcoming Conferences."





**President**

Marc McCoy  
Excelsior Middle School, Linn-Mar  
319-377-7373  
mmccoy@linnmar.k12.ia.us

**Website Editor**

Sandy DeSchinckel  
pi-girl@mchsi.com

**Executive Director**

Steve Kwikkel  
Waverly-Shell Rock Jr. High  
319-352-3632  
kwikkels@waverly-shellrock.k12.ia.us

**Membership and Building Representatives' Coordinator**

Vicki Westerly  
I-35 Middle School  
641-765-4908  
vwesterly@I-35.k12.ia.us

**President-Elect**

Brad Buck  
Waukee Middle School  
515-987-5177  
bbuck@waukee.k12.ia.us

**Northeast Director**

Bill Soesbe  
Waverly-Shell Rock Jr. High  
319-352-3632  
soesbeb@waverly-shellrock.k12.ia.us

**Treasurer**

Matt DeBaene  
Wood Intermediate  
563-391-6350  
debaenem@davenportschools.org

**Southeast Director**

Amanda Stablein  
Wood Intermediate  
563-391-6350  
stableina@davenportschools.org

**Secretary**

Bev Maronn  
Excelsior Middle School, Linn-Mar  
319-377-7373  
bmaronn@linnmar.k12.ia.us

**Central Director**

Mary Decker  
May Goodrell Traditional Plus,  
Des Moines  
515-242-8444  
mary.decker@dmps.k12.ia.us

**Midwest Region Conference Chair**

Deborah Rose  
Berg Middle School, Newton  
641-792-7741 ext. 1251  
rose\_deborah@mail1.newton.k12.ia.us

**Northwest Director**

Pauline Zabka  
North Kossuth  
515-272-4752  
zabkap@n-kossuth.k12.ia.us

**Newsletter Editor**

Keri Schlueter  
Parkview Middle School  
515-965-9640  
kschluet@ankney.k12.ia.us

**Southwest Director**

Vacant

## Central Sectional Scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup>

The central sectional that has been annually held in April in Des Moines is moving to the fall. This year's date is Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> with registration beginning at 4:30. IAMLE members will get a discounted registration of \$15.00; non-member registration is \$35.00. The registration fee includes meal, keynoter, two breakouts and an IAMLE membership for nonmembers.

IAMLE membership includes reduced rates on all Sectional and Midwest Regional Conferences; 4 issues of UPDATE (the IAMLE newsletter); premium access to the IAMLE web site (IAMLE.org); and board members are available to be utilized as resources for any of your middle level questions.

This year's strands will be; general brain based strategies for any middle level class; data driven decision making; and special education/inclusion. There will be 3 or 4 topics in each area to choose from. The keynoter will be Rick Herring, NMSA Trustee and Principal at Wood Intermediate.

Registration forms will be coming in the AEA 11 bag mail around the middle of August. You may also receive an electronic registration form by email (mary.decker@dmps.k12.ia.us). Come join us for an evening of networking, laughter and learning.

## IAMLE Members...

Proud to be a middle level educator? Wear your heart on your sleeve with IAMLE gear. T-shirts, hoodies, and novelty items are now available on our website:

[www.iamle.org](http://www.iamle.org)

## Membership News

Please notify the IAMLE Membership Chair of any changes of address, e-mail, or position that have occurred in the last year. By doing so, your mailings will arrive as scheduled.

We are always looking to serve you better and in order to do so your updates are important.

The Membership Fee is \$20.00; if you have not renewed your membership please do so by sending your application via e-mail or regular mail to: Vicki Westerly, Interstate 35 Middle School, P.O. Box 200, Truro, IA 50257 or you can go to our website iamle.org and send your application via the internet. You will receive a confirmation telling you to send your payment to the Membership Chair immediately. Payment is required to activate your membership. The membership year extends one year from the month of application.



## Corporate sponsors of IAMLE

**MDA** MIDWEST DAIRY ASSOCIATION™



**Perfection Learning®**  
CORPORATION



[www.iamle.org](http://www.iamle.org)

**IAMLE homepage**  
[www.iamle.org](http://www.iamle.org)

The Iowa Association for Middle Level Education - the only affiliate of the National Middle School Association in Iowa - is dedicated to meeting the needs of young adolescents and committed to promoting educational improvement for middle level students.

The IAMLE UPDATE is the official newsletter of the Iowa Association for Middle Level Education and is published four times each academic year. Subscription to the IAMLE UPDATE is included in IAMLE membership dues.

IAMLE UPDATE    Volume 12, Number 7

Editor: Keri Schlueter  
Ankeny, Iowa  
[kschluet@ankeny.k12.ia.us](mailto:kschluet@ankeny.k12.ia.us)  
515/965-9640 Work



MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION

IAMLE UPDATE  
Iowa Association for Middle Level Education  
909 mNE 15th Street  
Ankeny, IA 50021

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 762  
DES MOINES, IA