From the Executive Director

Dear Friends of SWWC:

Our programs and services exist for one purpose – to support and enhance the mission and work of our members! This report highlights the mission, vision, core values and accomplishments of SWWC. In its pages, I hope you will see how our programs and services are critical to the work of the members we serve.

Our shared services model of delivering programs and services is the basis for a number of new and existing initiatives from this past year. Entrepreneurial in spirit, we invest in the development of new programs that meet the needs of our members. As a membership driven organization, the SWWC Board and Administration work collaboratively with our members to offer programs and services that support, enhance, and meet their needs.

Our values of service, integrity, and respect form the foundation for the work we do and are embedded in the benefits we provide our members! At the center of these values is service; we believe service is a commitment to serve our members, potential members, co-workers and others. We care about them, listen to them, and work to address their issues. Satisfying those we serve is a priority for everyone in the agency.

As we plan for 2018-19, we continue to recognize the needs of our members. We are grounded and committed to our service approach and will continue to find ways to be innovative in our practice of administering high quality, affordable programs and services.

Thank you for all that you do in supporting our work together! I look forward to working with you in the coming year as we continue to find ways to meet your needs.

From the Board Chair

On behalf of the SWWC Board of Directors and its entire staff, I offer you, our valued partners in the education of “all our kids”, this poem.

Appreciation

Thousands of words in infinite combinations
Still aren’t enough to express appreciation
For people like you and all the things that you do,
For your support and concern, and your friendship so true.
So if we had money, we would buy you the best,
And if we could grant it, you would surely be blessed.
But we have no power, and our fortune is small.
In fact, there’s not much we can give you at all.
Yet we pray that in some way this small verse will show
SWWC appreciates you more than you may ever know.

Maydra Maas, APRN
SWWC: GREAT people doing GREAT things!

SWWC is a team of highly skilled and talented professionals who embrace our core values in all they do. Over 364 regular employees work throughout the 18 counties of southwest and west central Minnesota. Staff are located in our office and educational learning center locations, as well as right in the school district(s) they serve.

Employee retention is important to us. The average length of service for current staff is 5.87 years!
- 19 people have worked over 20 years
- 22 people have worked 15-19 years
- 33 have worked 10-14 years

The SWWC Team is dedicated to continuing education. Eight of our staff have a Ph.D. and 127 have a master’s degree!

2017-18 Executive Leadership Team
- Cliff Carmody, Executive Director
- Deecy Jesse, Executive Assistant
- Doug Deragisch, Senior Director of Administrative Services
- Randy Erdman, Director of Finance
- Lisa Gregoire, Senior Director of Teaching and Learning Services
- Shelly Matt, Manager of Member Services
- Annette Miller, Director of Finance
- Dr. Mary Palmer, Senior Director of Special Education Services
- Tammy Stahl, Director of Human Resources

We support the United Way!
Cooperative Purchasing and Health & Safety Collaborate

In May 2018, SWWC held its Third Annual Building and Grounds Lunch and Learn Extravaganza for member school districts, cities, counties, and other governmental agencies.

During the day, there were seven educational sessions offered by participating vendors with topics including Fire Code Standards for stage curtains and wall mats, different types of flooring for various school settings, playground safety, bleacher requirements and air filter standards for optimal air quality. During lunch there was a hands on demonstration to show how quickly a non-compliant stage curtain can start on fire.

Completing the day was a Health & Safety update highlighting new legislation for Lead in Water, OSHA visits in our schools and Long Term Facility Maintenance Funding.

Make plans to attend the Fourth Annual Building and Grounds Extravaganza in 2019. Watch our website for more details!
The 2017-18 New/Newer SpEd Teacher Cohort provided supports and trainings throughout the school year to assist districts with retention and increasing SpEd staff skills by providing relevant and meaningful supports and trainings in due process and instruction.

Sixty-eight teachers from the following schools participated:

- ACGC
- Adrian
- Cedar Mountain
- Eden Valley-Watkins
- Ellsworth
- Glencoe-Silver Lake
- Hendricks
- Ivanhoe
- Jackson County Central
- KMS
- Lake Benton
- Luverne
- MACCRAY
- Marshall
- Montevideo
- Murray County Central
- New teachers from SWWC's five Educational Learning Centers also attended.
- Ortonville
- Pipestone Area
- Redwood Area
- Round Lake/Brewster
- Red Rock Central
- Springfield
- Willmar
- Windom
- Worthington
- KMS
- Lake Benton
- Luverne
- MACCRAY
- Marshall
- Montevideo
- Murray County Central
- Ortonville
- Pipestone Area
- Redwood Area
- Round Lake/Brewster
- Red Rock Central
- Springfield
- Willmar
- Windom
- Worthington

The goal of the 2018-19 New/Newer SpEd Teacher Cohort is to develop capacity with SWWC member districts’ newer SpEd staff:

- to ensure they have the greatest opportunity for success
- to increase teacher retention with member districts
- to ensure students have the greatest level of achievement

The cohort will focus on due process and the unique aspects of SpEd instruction.

Three different training pathways will help target teacher needs based on their level of experience, and training will be tailored with continued supports throughout the school year.

For more information, contact:
Cassandra Johnson, Due Process Specialist
cassandra.johnson@swsc.org; 320-231-5184, ext. 2313.
2017-18 was a GREAT Year of Helping Students Find Their Passion in Life

Conference for Young Artists: 710
Conference for Young Writers: 535
Science & Nature Conference: 1,067

Regional Spelling Bee
Grades 5-8
School Participation: 25
Student Participation: 6,738
Regional Bee: 31
Local Bees: 4,615

JH Knowledge Bowl
32 schools
99 teams - 532 students

SH Knowledge Bowl
36 schools
108 teams - 544 students

Children’s Author & Illustrator Program
Grades K-6
13 schools
2,333 students

Creative Writing Contest
Grades 3-12
11 schools
113 students
180 entries

More details about all of our student enrichment programs can be found at www.swsc.org/studentactivities.
Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports

What is PBIS? It is a framework for helping schools select and organize evidence-based behavioral interventions into an integrated continuum that enhances academic and social outcomes for all students.

During the 2017-18 school year, SWWC’s Educational Learning Centers started a two-year training and implementation cycle as part of Cohort 13 in the PBIS Southern Regional Implementation Project.

Taking a proven framework and implementing it with students exhibiting emotional, social and behavioral needs created unique issues for the ELCs. To meet this challenge, we created clear and common sense positive behavior expectations which resulted in the STARRS logo shown above. Posters listing these expectations were placed throughout our classrooms, cafeterias, hallways, rest rooms, gyms and transportation. A method used to reinforce these expectations was STARRS points and STARRS Reward Cards. As students displayed positive behaviors, they earned STARRS points that could be used to purchase tangible and non-tangible items from school stores such as beverages, snacks, technology and music time, clothing, lunch privileges, cell phone use during free time, etc.

Research has shown that reinforcing desirable behaviors has far greater impact over time and decreases office referrals for minor and major behaviors. The STARRS system is a tiered-level system, which encourages consistent positive behavior and allows students to earn privileges. With consistent behavior comes more privileges during the school day. This system also helped resident districts and families of our students better gauge the skill levels and positive behavior over time.

WWW.SWSC.ORG/ELC

Did You Know?
The PBIS Southern Regional Implementation Project started in 2009 when SWWC, in conjunction with South Central Service Cooperative and Southeast Service Cooperative, received a grant from MDE to expand PBIS across the southern tier of Minnesota.
PROJECT SEARCH FAST FACTS
First Year: 2013-14
Total Project SEARCH Graduates: 29
2018 Project SEARCH Graduates: 7
Site Partner: Avera Marshall Medical Center
Number of Avera Internship Opportunities: 18
Student Internship Hours: 22 per week for a total of 660
MREA Profiles of Excellence Winner: 2015

PROJECT DISCOVERY FAST FACTS
First Year: 1984-85
Number of Students in 2017-18: 115
Number of School Districts in 2017-18: 22
Number of Career Stations: 40
Most Popular Career Stations: cosmetology, small engine, child care and photography

NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
National Entrepreneurship Month Order from Glassy Treasures and Bel-Youth Press by November 30 to ensure delivery for the holidays!
Daylight Savings Ends Spelling Bee - Final Registration Deadline PBS Cohort 13 Training - Mankato
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
American Education Week and School Psychology Awareness Week:
Veteran’s Day Annual Carl Perkins FACS Teacher Meeting SWWC Board of Directors Meeting Annual Carl Perkins Business Teacher Meeting
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 Thanksgiving 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30

ELECTION DAY
VOTE NOVEMBER 6

Office Locations
Marshall Pipestone Windom

Educational Learning Center Locations
Belview Pipestone Windom Cosmos Willmar

www.swsc.org
### NEW PROVIDER FOR WIDE AREA NETWORK

In March of 2018, SWWC selected SDN Communications and its Minnesota and South Dakota partner companies to provide broadband services to approximately 50 sites, including schools, libraries and other government agencies. SDN and the independent telephone companies of southern Minnesota won the business through a competitive Request for Proposal process. SDN has been providing internet and digital transport services to schools and libraries, but the new contract includes fiber-based Wide Area Network (WAN) connectivity among the schools and libraries and the SWWC’s data centers, as well as managed routers providing a level of cybersecurity.

### GOOGLE CERTIFIED ASSOCIATE GSUITE ADMINISTRATOR

Kara Damm, Technology Integration Specialist, and Josh Stukel, Technology Coordinator, completed and passed the course/exam to become Google Certified Associates - GSuite Administrators in December 2017. With this certification, Kara and Josh can configure and manage all aspects of a GSuite domain, including administering users, organizational units, groups and access to services.

### DECEMBER 2018

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**Office Locations**
- Marshall
- Willmar
- Pipestone
- Windom

**Educational Learning Center Locations**
- Belview
- Pipestone
- Windom

**Contact Information**

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**Contact Information**
Building Identity Event

Low Incidence refers to disability areas that occur rarely or in low numbers. Hearing Loss is a Low Incidence Disability.

SWWC, Minnesota Lions Foundation, Local Lions Clubs, Teachers of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing, interpreters and parents worked together to hold a Building Identity Event (BIE) in March 2018.

• Ninety-eight students with hearing loss attended.
• The students went ice-skating, ate a meal together, interacted and communicated without boundaries.
• The BIE was held at the Redwood Area Community Center in Redwood Falls.
• The BIE gave students the opportunity for increased acceptance and pride in their hearing loss, and increased use of amplification and accommodations.

As a result of this event, students made new friends and will have lifetime connections with them via social media, facetime, video phone and/or pen pal.

THANK YOU to everyone whose passion and support made this event possible! We will hold the event again in 2019 - so watch the SWWC website for information!
**SWWC Celebrates Career and Tech Ed Month!**

The **Minnesota West Carl Perkins Consortium** is comprised of 38 high schools and five post-secondary campuses. Staff from SWWC, Minnesota River Valley Education District and Minnesota West Community and Technical College work together, with help from our partners, to provide a variety of resources to consortium schools to improve the quality of technical education and provide career development opportunities for learners of all ages. Our major student events include:

- **Schwan’s Culinary Skills Challenge**: 202 students from 16 school districts attended.
- **Digital Photography Competition**: 22 students from seven school districts participated.
- **Southwest Minnesota Career Expo**: Career Expos are held in both Marshall (at Southwest Minnesota State University) and Worthington (at Minnesota West) each fall. In 2017, over 1,830 students from 33 schools attended a Career Expo.

**JANUARY**

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- **Career and Technical Education Month**

**FEBRUARY 2019**

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- **School Counseling Week**
  - SHKB - Early Registration Deadline
  - Valentine’s Day
  - SHKB - Final Registration Deadline

**MARCH**

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- **School Board Recognition Week**
  - President’s Day
  - SWWC School Law Seminar
  - SHKB Region 6 Sub-Regional - Willmar

**Educational Learning Center Locations**

- Belview
- Pipestone
- Windom

**Office Locations**

- Marshall
- Willmar

**www.swsc.org**
CPC vendors meet the competitive solicitation requirements so you can purchase off contracts without needing to bid on your own!

CPC SAVES YOU TIME & MONEY!

START SHOPPING TODAY AND SAVE!

COOPERATIVE Purchasing CONNECTION

FEBRUARY

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MARCH 2019

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Technology Facilities & Grounds Office & Classroom Supplies Furniture Athletics Copiers Food & Kitchen Supplies Instructional Resources Security & Safety Software Vehicles ... and so much more!

School Social Worker Week

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SHKB Region 8 Regional

Educational Technology Conference - Pipestone

Daylight Savings Begins

Science & Nature Conference - Early Registration Deadline

Children's Author and Illustrator Program

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Office Locations

Marshall
Willmar
Pipestone
Windom

Educational Learning Center Locations

Belview
Cosmos
Pipestone
Willmar
Windom

www.cpcexpress.org

www.swsc.org

DON'T FORGET!

Technology
Facilities & Grounds
Office & Classroom Supplies
Furniture
Athletics
Copiers
Food & Kitchen Supplies
Instructional Resources
Security & Safety
Software
Vehicles
... and so much more!

START SHOPPING TODAY AND SAVE!
LYFT CAREER PATHWAYS

Launch Your Future Today (LYFT) is a rural career and technical education (CTE) pathway initiative with the purpose of rebuilding CTE in southwest and west central Minnesota. LYFT is funded through a $3 million Rural Career and Technical Education Consortium Grant, which was passed by the Minnesota Legislature in 2017.

The goal of LYFT Pathways is for every secondary student in the region to gain marketable skills through meaningful CTE courses and opportunities which lead to further education and careers that match our region’s labor market needs. Partnerships in the SWWC service area, or the Minnesota West and Mid-Minnesota Carl Perkins Consortiums, are eligible to apply for up to $50,000 in funds to develop new CTE opportunities for students.

Number of Projects Funded, January to May 2018: 9
Total Amount Awarded: $308,000
Read about all funded projects at WWW.LYFTPATHWAYS.ORG

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- Willmar

www.swsc.org
In 2018-19, there will be a $500 incentive (HSA/VEBA contribution) for employees on the health plan that participate in their district’s wellbeing activities and onsite biometric screening.

The Five Essential Elements of Wellbeing

Purpose

Community

Social

Physical

Financial

For more information about Health and Wellness through SWWC, contact Kari Bailey, Regional Wellness Specialist, at www.swsc.org/livewell.

Over 115 schools, cities, counties and other governmental agencies subscribe to health insurance services for their employees through the SWWC self-funded member-owned insurance pools.

Beginning during the 2018-19 school year, employees on the health plan will have an opportunity to participate in Omada, a pre-diabetes heart disease prevention program – at no cost to them!

Doctor on Demand: See a board-certified physician, right from your desk (or home)! Visits start at $44. Mental Health visits also available!

Blue365 Deals: Health and Wellness deals for BCBS members blue365deals.com

Over 115 schools, cities, counties and other governmental agencies subscribe to health insurance services for their employees through the SWWC self-funded member-owned insurance pools.

APRIL

JUNE

MAY 2019

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Windom

Educational Learning Center Locations

Belview

Pipestone

Windom

Cosmos

Willmar

Sunday

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Better Hearing and Speech Month

Teacher Appreciation Week and Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week

National Teacher Appreciation Day

National School Nurse Day

School & Ruben Cowles

Global Employee Health and Fitness Month

Teacher Appreciation Week and Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week

School & Ruben Cowles

SWWC Closed

Memorial Day

Office Locations

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Global Employee Health and Fitness Month

Teacher Appreciation Week and Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week

School & Ruben Cowles

SWWC Closed

Memorial Day
SWWC MEMBERSHIP

As a member of SWWC, your organization gains access to our educational and administrative programs and services. Members also receive preferred pricing on professional development workshops.

Full membership is open to public school districts, cities, counties, and other governmental agencies as defined in Minnesota Statute (M.S. 471.59) and are within the SWWC region. Full members pay a one-time $25 membership fee.

Associate membership is open to (a) nonpublic schools, partnership agencies, or nonprofit organizations within the SWWC region, and to (b) schools — public and nonpublic, cities, counties, partnership agencies, nonprofit organizations, and other governmental agencies outside the SWWC region. Associate members pay a one-time $50 membership fee.

SOUTH DAKOTA MEMBERS

Over 80 schools and agencies located in South Dakota are associate members and take advantage of the best pricing available from our Cooperative Purchasing Program vendors.

In addition, 14 school districts in South Dakota purchase SWWC Behavior Services!

A list of SWWC members and information about becoming a member can be found at www.swsc.org/members.
Our core values of service, integrity and respect are the foundation for all we do.

By remaining fiscally responsible and nurturing partnerships, we will continue to grow and expand services to meet the needs of our members.

By stretching dollars through economies of scale, we help provide access to programs and services not readily available to our members without our efforts.

SWWC practices strict accounting principles to ensure the highest level of financial integrity. Comprehensive annual audits and budget oversight by key advisory groups are examples of financial accountability.

This financial information was taken from the 2017-18 SWWC Final Budget approved by the Board of Directors. Complete copies of audited financial statements are available at the SWWC office.

Our shared services model helps school districts, cities, counties and other governmental agencies operate more efficiently and cost effectively.

We work with our members to bring equal opportunities for students and communities in southwest and west central Minnesota.

Dr. Chad Anderson, Outgoing Superintendents’ Executive Council Chair

Cliff Cannody
2018 MASA Region 3 Administrator of Excellence

2017-18 Budgeted Resource Distribution

- Local Sources $5,382,468
- Contracts $9,263,459
- Federal Aids/Grants $10,721,589
- State Aids/Grants $11,367,524
- **TOTAL** $36,735,040

Budgeted expenditures increased 13.3% from previous year.
Budgeted revenues increased 13% from previous year.
The Insurance Pool budgeted revenue decreased 8.5% from previous year to $78.1 million.
MISSION

We support and enhance the work of our members by providing programs and services that meet their needs.

VISION

By striving to be innovative, collaborative and responsive, we will be the premiere service agency for our members.

VALUES

Service. Integrity. Respect.

WWW.SWSC.ORG

Our geographic boundaries cover the 18 counties of southwest and west central Minnesota, but our programs and services span beyond those boundaries. Our main office is located in Marshall, with other office locations and educational learning center locations throughout the region.

1420 East College Drive, Marshall, MN 56258; 507-537-2240