



*We power independent schools.™*

Hello!

We miss having your school as part of the **MISBO** network of schools. I want to let you know what we have been doing and then I want to hear about what you have been doing.

- Throughout last spring and into the summer, we mixed 12 cohort schools with IDEO's Design for Learning Studio to explore innovative and sustainable business models. These were presented in our publications and at our Fall Conference in New Orleans. The cohort schools and the IDEO designers were eager to share what they learned: both what works and what doesn't and more importantly, why some initiatives are more successful than others. [misbo.com/ideo](https://misbo.com/ideo)
- In the early fall, we published a groundbreaking piece on the ethics of purchasing in independent schools. School people and vendors came together to hash out what is correct and what isn't permissible in our community. The document serves as a tool that schools are using to ensure that their approach to purchasing matches their mission, their values, and their beliefs about how we treat those in and around our community. [misbo.com/ethics](https://misbo.com/ethics)
- During the past semester, colleagues posed questions to each other and got answers on the robust **MISBO** list-servs on topics such as cyber security insurance, playground equipment, tax reform, multiple recommendations, tuition dependency, background checks, tuition remission, video streaming services, LMS platforms, perpetual enrollment, and many others. We help each other and we have each other's backs. [misbo.com/list-servs](https://misbo.com/list-servs)
- The purchasing consortium, designed exclusively for the independent school industry and the only one managed full-time by independent school professionals saw an average savings to each school of over \$7,500. These are precious funds that can be directed back to students and fulfilling the mission of the school. [misbo.com/contracts](https://misbo.com/contracts)

But enough about what we have been up to. I want to know what you have been up to. How are you doing? And how can we help you solve the riddles you are facing and let the community help answer the big questions we are struggling to answer? You are all facing similar pressures: enrollment, market share, facility management, pressure from public/vouchers/charters, struggles to prepare students for an uncertain future.

We want you to come home to **MISBO** and work on these issues together, side by side with other independent schools, some in your area, some not, but close enough to share a common culture and engage in a network trying to understand what needs to be sustained and what needs to get left by the wayside. This is your family and we want you here. This is your family and we want to welcome you home.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Damian Kavanagh'.

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