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School Administrators of Montana

BULLETIN

Visionary leaders united in providing, advocating, and creating education excellence for Montana students!

Volume XL

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Upcoming Conferences and Meetings

April 4 - 6: Montana Principals Conference - Fairmont [Registration](#)

April 17-19: MACSS Spring Conference - Whitefish - [Information](#)

July 30 - August 1: SAM Administrators Institute - Helena - [Registration](#)

SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program (LPLP) 2018-

Benefits of Getting Involved

by Joel Graves, MASSP President

Dear Fellow SAM Members,

As I near the end of my year of service as President of MASSP, I would like to thank all of you for the amazing opportunity I have had to serve in this capacity. I have enjoyed the personal and professional development that comes with performing the duties of President, but it is the networking and friendships I have made with all of you in the process that will be what I remember most.

If I could give one piece of advice to any school administrator in Montana, it would be this: get involved in your organization. By serving this great organization as either a regional director or perhaps as president, the professional development opportunities presented to you will be second to none. Attending the national conference is one such benefit that helps in finding some wonderful professional development to bring home to all educators in Montana.

By attending your regional meetings, not only will you collaborate with many other administrators who share some of your same questions and concerns, you will develop a network of personal and professional colleagues that will last a lifetime. The experience and knowledge gained in these meetings have proven to be extremely valuable to me.

Being an advocate for your profession helps all of us currently working, as well as future generations of educational leaders to come. Being actively involved also provides an excellent example to all of the teachers and students you serve of how to grow and develop continually as a professional.

Once again, I thank you all for the experience. It has been my pleasure to serve as your MASSP President.

Thank you,

Joel Graves, MASSP President

Advocating for the Education of Montana Students - A SAM Priority

by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director

Happy Easter to you Montana educator! I hope that some time for reflection will be available to you over the Easter weekend, and also hope that you will include in that

SAM Membership Renewal Process for 18-19 Membership Drive - Starts April 3, 2018!

by Pat Audet, SAM Associate Director

I hope that everyone has now become familiar with the online process that SAM

19: [Find Out More](#) and [Register](#)

**** [View the full SAM Calendar](#)****

Thank you to this month's featured Business Partners!



reflection some thoughts about the great work you do for your schools, staff and students. Your outstanding leadership and management of the many priorities during springtime in our schools is paramount to your school team and students' success. As you reflect and plan, advocacy for the education of Montana's children is on my mind, so I'm taking this opportunity to update you on the advocacy work of our SAM membership as we prepare for the political season and the 2019 Legislative Session.

Our schools reflect the core values of our communities throughout the state and our work in advocacy as SAM members is to develop priorities with rationale for meeting the needs of the students with fidelity to the implementation of programming and structures that support effective education for the whole child. The SAM process for doing this is the Delegate Assembly; and it has developed over 3 decades, creating a solid platform of advocacy reflecting the consensus of our SAM members. You can click to review the [SAM Advocacy Priorities, Positions and Resolutions](#) adopted by the SAM membership in October 2017 to see the 39 Positions and 44 Resolutions that comprise the consensus of our members.

The preparation for the SAM Delegate Assembly 2018 that takes place on June 14-15 in Helena, is currently underway. That preparation consists of the presidents of the [SAM Affiliate associations selecting delegates](#) to represent their membership at the Delegate Assembly and the [Call for Delegate Assembly Positions and Resolutions](#) sent to all SAM members in January. At the current time, no proposed Positions or Resolutions have been submitted, so this reference serves as a reminder to our members that proposed Positions and/or Resolutions are due by April

started last year. However, we would like to provide a reminder for the second year of renewing SAM memberships online. Again, for most school districts, the district clerk will be the "key contact" for receiving a membership renewal email. Some members will be the "key contact" for their personal renewal or organization's renewal (retired members, MCASE members, private organizations, etc). All members will also be receiving an email reminder for renewal. Please work with your clerk to process the membership renewal so that you are guaranteed the correct membership option that you would like. Please note that even though you will be receiving membership renewal invoices electronically, membership dues will still need to be paid by check and not credit cards.

Important Reminders and Information for a Seamless Membership Renewal Process:

- Your clerk or you as the key contact (if you do not belong to a school district) will be receiving an initial membership renewal email on April 3rd that will be notifying them that the SAM membership renewal process is now open. Within this email will be a link that will take the clerk to your district's renewal form. The renewal form will already be pre-loaded with last year's membership information for each member within the district or organization. An invoice will also accompany this email that has the previous memberships and dollar amounts that match what the district had this past year.
- You, as a renewing member, will also be receiving an email that has all of your current membership information that you can observe and share with your clerk if need be.
- Working together with your clerk or key contact will ensure that you renew with your correct or chosen



SAM Leadership

SAM

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MASS

27 (following the guidelines outlined in the Call document).

The SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee (consisting of one appointed representative of each of the six SAM affiliates – MASS, MAEMSP, MASSP, MCASE, MACSS, META) are contacts for you (based on the affiliate you are a member of) to assist in crafting your advocacy idea into a Position or Resolution, so it can be submitted for consideration of the Delegate Assembly. Refer to the [Call for Delegate Assembly Positions and Resolutions](#) document for the contact info of your affiliate Delegate Assembly Steering Committee Representative. Following the April 27 deadline, the SAM Delegate Assembly (DA) Steering Committee reviews all proposed Positions and Resolutions and all current Positions and Resolutions for recommendation to the SAM Delegate Assembly. The work of the SAM DA Steering Committee is important and requires significant knowledge of the issues and time to complete this process with fidelity – thank you SAM DA Steering Committee members for your great work on behalf our SAM organization!

On June 14-15, forty-five Delegates representing all affiliate regions of the state will assemble and consider the recommendations for SAM Positions and Resolutions and determine SAM’s priorities for advocacy. The Delegate Assembly approved recommendations will then be presented to the SAM membership for action at the Annual SAM Business meeting during MCEL in Missoula on October 18, 2018. This rigorous, transparent process with many checkpoints for allowing input into the complicated advocacy issues has led to SAM’s ability to develop consensus on advocacy priorities that are then used throughout the year representing SAM. This great process solidifies our ability to advocate for educational issues that are important for our

membership affiliate and membership option. Most of the renewal process is a matter of verifying last year’s membership options and confirming these options for this next membership year.

- Your clerk or key contact can add new members (coming into a district or organization) to the form and choose their affiliate and membership option. New school leaders that are coming into a district can also sign up for a membership themselves using the [“Join Here”](#) link (which will go live on April 3rd) provided on the SAM website under “Quick Links”.
- Again, you and your district clerk will be getting an initial email on April 3rd to let you know that the SAM Membership Renewal Process is now open and will provide you the link to the renewal format described above. An invoice of this past year’s membership dues will accompany this email.

**Montana Principals
Conference April 4-6,
Fairmont Hot Springs!**



Tobin Novasio
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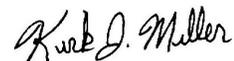
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Rich Lawrence
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Kirk Miller
Executive Director
Pat Audet
Associate Director
Gary Wagner
Operations Manager
Kim Scofield
Communications Specialist

collective membership with many audiences, including the Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC) partnership, the Governor's Office, the Montana Legislature and U.S. Congress (most specifically the Montana Congressional Delegation). These advocacy Priorities, Positions, and Resolutions establish the marching orders and game plan for our members to advocate (including Pat and I representing SAM issues) for what is important to our schools and the students we serve during the 2019 legislative session and all other venues where advocacy attention is required.

SAM's Strategic Plan Goal for Advocacy is ... SAM members will be equipped with accurate information and prepared to use it to advocate for public education. The SAM Delegate Assembly process and formation of the SAM Legislative Network (consisting of SAM members from every affiliate region of our state) for the upcoming 2019 Legislative Session have proven effective in making sure the voice of Montana's school leaders (administrators) are heard on all of the key issues impacting the education of our children. I thank all SAM members who utilize our process and engage in advocacy for students!

Have a great April my SAM colleagues!



**HAVE YOU MARKED YOUR
CALENDAR?**

**SAM ADMINISTRATORS
INSTITUTE 2018**

**JULY 30 - AUGUST 1, 2018
RADISSON COLONIAL, HELENA**



Empowering Montana
Students -
Transforming Education

Save the Date!

REGISTER for the 2018

MAEMSP/MASSP

Conference!

An additional room block has been secured at the newly remodeled Copper King Hotel in Butte. You will receive the state rate when booking. Contact the hotel at (406) 565-5001 located at 4655 Harrison Avenue.

**SAM Leaders Professional
Learning Program 2018-19**

**SAM LPLP 2018-19 Video Including
Member Testimonials**



It isn't too early to start thinking about professional learning for you and your district administrators for next year. SAM LPLP 2018-19 incorporates all of the robust personalized

professional development tools from SAM LPLP 2017-18 along with the addition of new Collegial Learning Networks (CLNs) all designed to meet the professional learning needs of new, experienced, and aspiring administrators.

SAM LPLP's multi-faceted blended learning approach consists of a rich online resource center, collegial learning networks designed to be dynamic based upon topics of interest as they arise that allow participants to focus on specific areas of interest, and personal learning networks including the option of one-on-one coaching/mentoring with experienced Providers.

Tailored to meet the needs of administrators, learning networks meet both

SAM Administrators Institute 2018!

Empowering Montana Students - Transforming Education

**July 30 - August 1, 2018 Radisson
Colonial Hotel, Helena**

Monday, July 30th:

- SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program (LPLP) Summit
- MTASCD Summit featuring childhood trauma expert Kristin Souers

Tuesday, July 31st and Wednesday, August 1st:

- Eric Schenniger (International Center for Leadership in Education) - Personalized Learning
- Jana Frieler (NASSP Professional Development Faculty) - Social Emotional Learning
- Keith Krueger (CoSN Executive Director) - Cyber and Information Security
- Sue Meyer (Apple Education) - Transforming Education, along with breakout sessions in each focus zone.

With three days of rich professional learning, you can expect to gain valuable insight into current education issues. The SAM Administrators Institute is designed to provide you with relevant information to enhance your planning for the 2018-19 school year.

[Click HERE for more information.](#)

virtually and face-to-face allowing participants to share challenges, successes, and thought leadership with like-minded Montana leaders experiencing similar job roles, situations, and context while bringing professional development to the administrator.

The goal of the SAM LPLP is to provide intentional, personalized professional learning to Montana educators through research-based strategies resulting in improvements in job satisfaction, administrator longevity, and ultimately to increased student achievement and quality of instruction which will positively impact the education of students across Montana.

[Click to Register for SAM LPLP 2018-19!](#)

Did You Know... There is a New Subscribe Feature for Member Community Forums?

As a SAM member, you automatically receive email notifications of new topics posted in a Community Forum that you belong to and receive email notifications of replies only if you subscribe to the topic. You now have the option of ***personalizing your notifications*** by subscribing to new topics to **automatically** receive email notification of replies to topics.

If you belong to a community forum that you are sure you want to receive an email notification each time a member posts a topic OR replies to a topic, follow these steps to update your contact preferences:

[Click HERE to register.](#)



1. Go to the [Member Landing Page](#) and log in.
2. Click on "My Profile"
3. Hover over or click on "My Profile" on the following page
4. Click on "Contact Preferences". Here you can see all of the forums you are part of.
5. Click on the drop-down menu under "Notifications" next to the forum(s) you would like to automatically subscribe to and click "New Topics and Replies". You will now be notified each time a new topic is posted AND of replies posted to topics within that forum.

Call or email the SAM office if you need assistance.

Thank you to SAM's Business Partners!

Please take time to visit their websites.

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[February 2018 Bulletin](#)

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[November 2017 Bulletin](#)

[October 2017 Bulletin](#)

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[July/August 2017 Bulletin](#)

Bulletins from Previous Years

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