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## *School Administrators of Montana*

# BULLETIN

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

**Volume XL**

**DECEMBER 2017**

**No. 269**

### **Holiday Lists**

*by Linda Marsh, MACSS President*



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## **Upcoming Conferences and Meetings**

**Dec. 7: SAM Needs Assessment Survey** delivered to your inbox. Please complete by Jan. 8, 2018.

At Thanksgiving time I miss David Letterman and his mom, Dorothy. She baked those wonderful pies for Thanksgiving dinner and he tried to guess which kind they were. Usually there was a pumpkin, but sometimes not. She was pretty clever, mixing in some unique kinds just to make it fun. She was 95 when she passed away last April.

Another thing I liked about the David Letterman Show was his lists. Every night there was a “Top Ten” segment. Over his career, Letterman presented, or had a guest present, 4,605 top ten lists. One list that most everyone can relate to after Thanksgiving was: “The Top 10 Signs You’ve Eaten Too Much on Thanksgiving”. Some of his lists were pretty silly, but seriously I’ve always seen great value in lists. Lists help us prioritize tasks, keep organized, and get things done. They also allow us to reflect on our accomplishments, as Kirk Miller suggested in the November Bulletin.

Now as we enter the holiday season more lists will be needed, including gift lists. Pablo Picasso once said, “The meaning of life is to find your gift, the purpose of life is to give it away.” David Letterman certainly found his gift and shared the gift of laughter nightly to his audience and viewers. As educators we give every day. Each of us has our own unique gifts to give our communities, schools, teachers, students, and colleagues. We have chosen education as a career because we care about kids and are passionate about helping students reach their full potential. We share our passion and strive to instill it in others around us.

As administrators we always have lots to do – responding to the constant flood of emails; preparing for trustee, association, and other board meetings; managing staff and school budgets...the list goes on and on. Sometimes the tasks may seem impossible, often made difficult by things outside of our control. All the demands of our jobs can become overwhelming at times. As members of School Administrators of Montana, we are provided with valuable resources. We are part of a network which allows us to share information and work together toward our common goals. This collaboration assists us in solving problems, such as recruiting and retaining qualified teachers.

Our affiliation with SAM allows us to give the gift of recognition to colleagues and community members as well. Congratulations to Melissa Romano at Four Georgians Elementary in Helena for being selected the 2018 Montana Teacher of the Year. Congratulations, also, to Judith Boyle at the Divide School and Judy Vincent at Shields Valley Elementary in Wilsall for being named finalists. In the November Bulletin, Pat Audet created a list of many awards which have upcoming deadlines. I hope you will take the time to apply or nominate someone else who deserves recognition. Later this month MACSS, along with SAM and MREA, will be seeking nominations for the Montana Rural Teacher of the Year. Please consider nominating an outstanding rural teacher.

Lastly, in a few weeks you have an opportunity to give yourself a gift. I challenge you to make a Top Ten List: “The Top Ten Things I Will Do for Myself During the Break”. Relax. Have fun. You deserve it.

Oh, in case you are wondering, I baked two pies for Thanksgiving, a pumpkin and a chocolate cream. Hope yours were delicious!

*Happy Holidays!*

*Linda Marsh, MACSS President*

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**Dec. 12: #SAMedchat** -  
Kim Ray - Standard Based  
Report Cards

**Dec. 25:** SAM Office Closed

**Dec. 26-29:** SAM Office  
Open Flexible Hours

**Jan. 1:** SAM Office Closed

**Feb. 28 - March 2:** MCEC  
Conference - Missoula

**March 19 - 20:** MASS  
Spring Conference - Helena  
- [Click to Register](#)

**March 19 - 21:**  
METAtedED Conference -  
Helena - [Click To Register](#)

**April 4 - 6:**  
MAEMSP/MASSP Spring  
Conference - Fairmont -  
[Click to Register](#)

**April 17-19:**  
MACSS Spring Conference -  
Whitefish

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

***Thank you to this  
month's featured  
Business Partners!***

## Effective Advocacy for the Education of Montana Students

*by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director*



The call of a special session in November certainly brings focus to the importance of advocacy for Montana schools and the students served by those schools. SAM (our collective membership) collaborated with the MT-PEC in advocating for the interests of our schools before, during and

continuing after the Special Session. SAM has also been active in advocacy at the federal level with items of federal tax reform, the federal budget, Medicaid and health care issues, and congressional actions to privatize education using public funds. Addressing the Montana Special Session and Federal Advocacy being a main focus this past November and into December, this article will provide you with resources that you can use for the benefit of your school and students.

### 2017 Special Session

Detailed information about the special session from the SAM perspective is being updated regularly on the [SAM 2017 Special Session](#) webpage. November 13-16, 2017 brought the 65<sup>th</sup> Montana Legislature back to the Capitol to work to resolve a shortfall in the revenue estimates adopted by the 2017 legislature. The shortfall was estimated to be approximately \$227 million, with the Governor suggesting a third/third/third plan that would resolve the shortfall by cutting \$76 million in programs and services at the state level, \$76 million in short-term fund transfers, and \$75 million in new taxes/fees. The [Proclamation Call for the Special Session](#) had the Governor recommending a narrow scope of work, and one of the 1<sup>st</sup> actions of the Special Session was to pass [SJ 1](#) calling for special rules and a concurrent special session to expand the scope of what could be considered during the special session.

## Erica Schnee is Chosen as 2017- 18 MASSP Assistant Principal of the Year

*by Pat Audet, SAM Associate Director*

Erica Schnee, Assistant Principal for Bozeman High School, was recently chosen as the MASSP Assistant Principal of the Year! We want to congratulate Erica on being selected for this very prestigious award!



The NASSP Assistant Principal of the Year award program annually recognizes outstanding school leaders who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students. These assistant principals are acknowledged by their peers for the exemplary contributions they have made to the profession. The program honors school assistant principals who have demonstrated excellence in the areas addressed by the selection criteria

1. Personal Excellence;
2. Collaborative Leadership;
3. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment; and
4. Personalization

One of Erica's students describes her as being "the most genuine administrator that they have ever met". The student goes on to say that "one never doubts the fact that she cares for her students and school and that she adores her profession; leading and educating are everything she is". A teacher expressed that "Erica's main focus has always been student growth". The staff member goes on to describe many strategies involving this concentration including educating staff about Multi-Tiered System of Supports and modeling best teaching practices.



## SAM Leadership

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The special session ended with the Senate sine die motion by Sen Jones at 12:36 AM and House sine die motion by Rep Flynn at 1:06 AM on Thursday, November 16, 2017. The momentum to put an acceptable package of bills together to solve a state shortfall in revenue set during the 2017 legislative session, began at about 8:00 AM on Monday, November 13 and culminated at 1:06 AM on Thursday. Twenty-four bills were considered with final status at [2017 Special Session Bills Final](#).

The [Articles](#) written immediately following the Special Session characterize the overview of what transpired...the Governor made \$76 million in cuts on Tuesday, November 14

- Bills passed bring in about \$94 million through fund transfers and delayed payments – coordinating bill is [HB 6](#), and [SB 2](#) to revise school funding block grants and reimbursements is included in this category.
- Approximately \$59 million was made available for a temporary fire fund by instituting a 3% management fee on the state fund ([SB 4](#)), authorizing furloughs for certain state employees ([HB 8](#)) which was vetoed by the Governor, and a complicated budget stabilization bill ([SB 9](#)), called the unwind bill, that creates an account for the Governor to make choices of how to use revenue if the revenue picture gets better.
- [HB 2](#) passed with new levels (includes reductions implemented through HB 261 after the 2017 session and the \$76 million in cuts made by the Governor) to be used as the starting point for the 2019 legislative session.

The total is approximately \$229 million was sent to the Governor (all did not make it through, the Governor vetoed the furlough bill ([HB 8](#)) and the bill to authorize the insurance commissioner to apply for health care waivers ([HB 5](#)). The [2017 Special Session Bills Final 11-27-17](#) shows the final status of all Special Session bills including [HB 2](#), [HB 6](#), [SB 9 becoming law without Governor signature](#), [Governor Veto of HB 5](#), and [Governor Veto of HB 8](#).

Her supervisor characterizes Erica as “truly modeling values, beliefs, and attitudes that encourage others to higher levels of performance in absolutely everything she does for our schools”. Her supervisor also describes how Erica serves many roles as an assistant principal including overseeing the technology program and chairing the Climate Committee (which has created a very positive school environment at BHS). Her leadership has ignited the energy behind staff participating in professional learning opportunities and maintaining a pathway toward vision for the future.

All 50 states select one assistant principal from their state. From the state winners, 3 finalists will be named to contend for the National Assistant Principal of the Year award. The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) will honor Erica and the other State Assistant Principals of the Year at the annual NASSP 2018 Principals Conference in Chicago, Illinois next summer.

## Why Should We Care about Standards for Our Profession? The Important Role of CSPAC in Montana

*by Dr. Rob Watson, Superintendent, Bozeman Public Schools*

Have you considered what it means to be a professional? Or what defines the nature of our profession? I heard once that if we want to be treated like professionals then we should be prepared to abide by professional standards. In addition, those standards should be created and monitored by those working in the field - practitioners, rather than by outsiders who have no stake in the outcome.

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Executive Director  
**Pat Audet**

The key education bill, [SB 2](#) *Revise laws related to school funding block grants and reimbursements*, passed both the Senate and House at about 6:20 PM on Wednesday, November 15, with a firm message of support for schools and their effort to help the state revenue shortfall. We will work with our members to assist everyone in understanding all of the flexible ways schools will have to fill the holes created by the block grant elimination without raising taxes on local schools.

The first effort to assist our schools is a [Draft spreadsheet](#) being developed to show each district's annual loss of state funding under SB 2 along with each district's ending fund balance in covered funds from which they could recover the lost amounts without a tax increase. This should be helpful for budget planning and understanding the impact of the special session on schools with maximum flexibility to meet the budget needs without an increase in taxes. You can expect to see a final version of this information in early December when OPI officially completes the analysis, so our schools will have the best ability to plan for next year and beyond.

Effective advocacy for our schools was a key element in minimizing the fiscal impact on K12 education during this time of revenue shortfall. Simply put, the actions and advocacy of the MT-PEC working together to create a best-case package for consideration of the legislature pre-empted the discussion of more harmful proposals (including freezing inflation on the school funding formula that would have resulted in a \$22 million permanent cut to schools statewide). Senate president Scott Sales (R-Bozeman) in an interview on the news, November 16, once again re-emphasized the concerns expressed by the education community about the special session – he stated (paraphrasing) -- *schools got through this with little contribution and he would have them “chip in more” if he had his way, but they (schools) have effective lobby*. Last week, MT-PEC partner Lance Melton wrote about the special session in [Effective Advocacy – At Speed, Under Pressure](#). I believe this accurately characterizes the work our education community did to advocate for K12 schools during the 2017 Special Session. SAM is an integral part of the MT-PEC partnership working to achieve the greater

This year marks my 25th in the field of public education. As I reflect back on my earliest years, I remember being concerned with lesson plans, assessment and building relationships with my students. I did not consider professional standards and how those standards guide my practice. Now serving in a leadership role, I realize the importance of professional standards and how they can provide a compass for us as we mentor those new to our field.

In our state, we have several rich examples of teaching and leadership standards at both the local and state level. We have structures in place to help monitor the effectiveness of professional standards. Also, compliance to our professional standards is done by those working in the field - a structure that should serve as a source of pride for our profession. The Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) represents one organization doing this work.

The CSPAC, established by the Montana Legislature in 1987, is made up of professionals from the field. There are representatives from teaching, administration, school boards and higher education. The job of CSPAC is to provide guidance on rules related to certification and accreditation. In addition, this group monitors the effectiveness of professional standards and practices. Using voices from the field, CSPAC provides advice and recommendations to the MT Board of Public Education.

One example of work done by CSPAC is the creation and evolution of the Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics. You may recall seeing this document when you recertified and received your license. The Code of Ethics outlines our professional commitments to students/families, to the profession, and to the communities in which we work and practice our craft. The Code of

*Associate Director*  
**Gary Wagner**  
*Operations Manager*  
**Kim Scofield**  
*Communications Specialist*

goals during this statewide revenue shortfall by retaining K12 school budget authority, allowing maximum flexibility for local districts to fill the holes created by reduced revenue, and retain the school funding formula constitutional integrity!

SAM will keep the [2017 Special Session](#) webpage updated to assist our SAM members with their understanding of the issues and the advocacy necessary to maintain quality public schools during the shortfall in state revenue.

Thank you SAM members and the SAM Legislative network members for your effort to connect, communicate and assist with advocacy during the special session. Contact me if you have questions!

### **Federal Advocacy**

As information comes available, we will post it on the [SAM Advocacy Issues 2017-18](#) webpage. We are updating information on [Federal Issues](#) impacting Montana education under the 'Advocacy' tab on the SAM website. SAM members approved the [SAM Federal Advocacy Priorities 2017-18](#). Our goal is to make it easy for you to check out what is going on in federal advocacy by reviewing the work of the SAM Federal Advocacy Team (consisting of the members of the SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee (one representative of each affiliate association of SAM) and the affiliate federal relations coordinators). In addition to the review of [ESSA Implementation](#), you can see the Contemporary Federal Issues with Positions taken by SAM as approved by the SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee and the SAM Affiliate Federal Relations Coordinators (SAM Federal Advocacy Team) ...

### **Federal Tax Reform**

SAM Federal Advocacy Team responded to a 'Call to Action' to vote No on tax reform (Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) that reduces support for public education. On 11-16-17 SAM and affiliate associations sent emails to the Montana Congressional Delegation in response to the 'Call to Action'. Sample emails sent -- [SAM Input on Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to Sen Tester Email 11-16-17](#), [SAM Input on Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to Sen](#)

Ethics is a living document that is routinely reviewed and updated by the members of CSPAC to ensure that it is relevant and effective. More importantly, the Code of Ethics echoes the voice of the practitioner. As a professional it is refreshing to know that we are governed by a code that was constructed by our colleagues.

So what does it mean to be a professional? Establishing a code of ethics is a good start.

Creating structures that allow us to self-monitor the compliance to our standards is also the mark of a true profession. When you are thinking about how you can improve the professionalism in your school or district - don't forget about the structures that we already have in place in Montana and remember that those rules were created by your colleagues. If you have suggestions and/or concerns regarding accreditation or certification standards, don't hesitate to contact a member of CSPAC. Current members include: Kelly Elder (chair) - Helena, Noreen Burris (vice chair) - Billings, Robert Watson - Bozeman, Sabrina Steketee - Boulder, Debbie Hendricks - Missoula, LeAnne Yenny - Bozeman, Angel Turoski - Great Falls.

### **Professional Educators of Montana**

#### **Code of Ethics**

Professional educators recognize and accept their responsibility to create learning environments to help all students reach their full potential. They understand the trust and confidence placed in them by students, families, colleagues, and the community. To achieve their professional purpose, educators strive to maintain the highest ethical standards. The Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics sets out these fundamental principles which guide their behavior.

**Principle I.** Commitment to Students and Families. The ethical educator:

[Daines Email 11-16-17](#), and [SAM Input on Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to Rep Gianforte Email 11-16-17](#). SAM received a [LETTER](#) on 10-24-17 from Senator Daines requesting input on federal tax reform. The SAM Federal Advocacy Team, on 11-1-17, submitted this [SAM LETTER](#) responding to the request.

### **Federal Budget FY 18**

SAM Federal Advocacy Team responded on 11-9-17 in writing to ask Congress to act quickly on H. R. 2340/S. 1027 to extend and fund the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (SRS). SAM and all affiliate associations (MASS, MASSP, MAEMSP, MACSS, MCASE, META) signed on to an [SRS Coalition House Letter](#) and [SRS Coalition Senate Letter](#). The SRS program provides critical bridge funding for forest counties and schools. We are urging Congress to act in a bipartisan fashion to fund SRS retroactively for 2016-2017 as the 115th Congress continues to work to provide hurricane aid, suppress wildfires and improve forest management with policies that protect natural resources and improve forest health and provide jobs. [OPI Proposed Trump 2018 Budget Affects Report 5-25-17](#) [OPI Proposed Trump Budget Fed Impact on MT 5-25-17](#) President Trump's [FY 18 Budget Proposal](#) Released on 3-16-17. Proposed [Cuts](#) to Education Programs

### **Medicaid and Health Care IssuesGraham-Cassidy Repeal of ACA**

[SAMLN17 Call to Action on Graham-Cassidy Proposal Health Care Legislation 9-22-17](#) resulting in [Graham-Cassidy Proposal Fails 9-28-17](#)

[Medicaid Support OpEd - SAM Kirk Miller 5-19-17](#)

### **DREAM Act**

[2017 DREAM Act Letter to Congress w Endorsers 9-20-17](#)

A huge thank you to the SAM Federal Advocacy Team members ... Rick Duncan (MASS), Paul Furthmyre (MASSP), Bruce Whitehead (MAEMSP), Brenda Krueger (MAEMSP), Tamra Covington (MCASE),

A. Makes the well-being of students the foundation of all decisions and actions.

B. Promotes a spirit of inquiry, creativity, and high expectations.

C. Assures just and equitable treatment of every student.

D. Protects students when their learning or well-being is threatened by the unsafe, incompetent, unethical or illegal practice of any person.

E. Keeps information confidential that has been obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves a compelling purpose in the best interest of students, or is required by law.

F. Respects the roles, responsibilities and rights, of students, parents and guardians.

G. Maintains appropriate educator-student relationship boundaries in all respects, including speech, print, and digital communications.

**Principle II.** Commitment to the Profession. The ethical educator:

A. Fulfills professional obligations with diligence and integrity.

B. Demonstrates continued professional growth, collaboration and accountability.

C. Respects the roles, responsibilities, and rights of colleagues, support personnel, and supervisors.

D. Contributes to the development of the profession's body of knowledge.

E. Manages information, including data, with honesty.

Jessica McWilliams (MACSS), Jules Waber (MACSS), Todd Lark (META) ... for the extensive work you do to follow the federal issues and make sound recommendations for advocacy.

The combined effort of SAM members around advocacy is one of the reasons why our Montana students do so well. Thanks for your leadership of our Montana schools! Wishing you a fantastic December and Merry Christmas along with a Happy New Year!

*Kim J. Miller*

## Did You Know?

*The most up-to-date membership listing is on the SAM website! The [SAM School Leadership Directory 2017-18](#) is a list of renewed SAM members as of 12-1-17.*

*The Leadership Directory gives you access to the contact information for all SAM members. This could be a great tool if you would like to respond to ONLY the author of a message sent through your affiliate e-list but do not know the author's email address. You will be able to find it in the Directory. Remember, ALL replies to affiliate e-lists are delivered to the ENTIRE e-list.*

*The SAM School Leadership Directory 2017-18 can also be found on the [SAM website](#) under Headlines and Features.*

## MAEMSP/MASSP Conference Registration

F. Teaches without distortion, bias, or prejudice.

G. Represents professional qualifications accurately.

**Principle III.** Commitment to the Community. The ethical educator:

A. Models the principles of citizenship in a democratic society.

B. Understands and respects diversity.

C. Protects the civil and human rights of students and colleagues.

D. Assumes responsibility for personal actions.

E. Demonstrates good stewardship of public resources.

F. Exemplifies a positive, active role in school-community relations.

G. Adheres to the terms of contracts, district policies and procedures, and relevant statutes and regulations.

*Dr. Rob Watson, Superintendent - Bozeman Public Schools*

[Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics](#) (pdf)

## Keep the Flame Burning - The NDP Experience

*by Sue Sweeney, Principal - Helena Schools, MAEMSP National Distinguished Principal*

The Japanese author, Haruki Murakami once said, "We each have a special something we can get only at a special time in our life, like a small



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**MAEMSP and MASSP will join forces for our annual conference!**

**April 4-6, 2018 at Fairmont Hot Springs**

**Bridging the Gap: From Theory to Practice**



**[Click to Register!](#)**

**Wednesday, April 4**

**Preconference:**

**John Perricone - Zen and the Art of Teaching**

**Thursday, April 5 & Friday, April 6**

**Conference:**

**Dr. Tony Sinanis and Dr. Joe Sanfelippo - Hacking Leadership**

Check out Joe and Tony's article from the NAESP Website by clicking [HERE](#).

**Mitch Craft - Leadership with PLC's**

flame. A careful, fortunate few cherish that flame, nurture it, hold it as a torch to light their way. But once that flame goes out, it's gone forever." After being named as Montana's National Distinguished Principal last February, I had no idea of the magnitude of the journey that I was about to embark upon. The torch that was passed on to me was one that I hardly felt worthy of carrying. Across Montana, and across the country, we all know amazing administrators, amazing schools, with amazing staff that do wonderful things everyday to help educate America's children.

On October 12-13, my husband Mark and I traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in NAESP's 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Distinguished Principal Program. The program is an opportunity to recognize principals of schools "in which a commitment to excellence is evident; in which the programs are designed to meet the academic and social needs of all students; and in which community ties with parents and local business organizations have been firmly established."

I nervously carried my Montana NDP flame to our first event-delivering a two-minute speech to all of the other NDP's from across the country and the globe. I soon realized that this opportunity showed that all of us had so much in common. We all bragged about our amazing staff back at home, about our passion for education, and our disbelief in being the "one" selected to represent our state. After listening to several speeches, my time at the podium felt minimal-my time to brag about Montana was easy. I love my state, I love my career, and I felt a bond with the other administrators who had gone before me. I know that I would not have been up at that podium without so many people throughout my career who lifted me up and challenged me to be better. I am so thankful that I joined SAM and MAEMSP at the beginning of my career and sought advice from so many "experts" along the way.

## **Gerry Brooks - Communication**

In attendance will be:

**NASSP President Dan Kelley and NAESP  
President Brian Partin**



**The office will be closed December 25th  
and January 1st.**

**The SAM Office will be open during  
flexible hours December 26th -  
December 29th.**

**Please contact us by phone or email if  
you need something.**

**MASS and  
METatechED Spring  
Conference Registrations  
are Open!**

That evening, we attended a cocktail party at the National Portrait Gallery with special guests Assistant Secretary of State for Administration Harry Mahar and Director of the Department of Overseas School, U.S. Department of State, Dr. Keith Miller. On Friday, our day began with a presentation on Arts Integration from Cheri Sterman, director of education at Crayola and 2016 NDP from Vermont, Bobby Riley. We then traveled to the Capitol for a group photo and then historical tours of the building by some very impressive tour guides. We then returned to the hotel for momento sharing. Everyone brought something from their area to share. This part of the event made me nervous. I spent all summer trying to think of the “perfect” gift to share. Well, it turns out, EVERYTHING was perfect! People were creative and unique in what they brought to represent their state. The huckleberry jam that I brought was a big hit!

We all were given some time to get ready for our “Black Tie Affair.” The flame of this memory is still shining bright and I hope to always feel the way I felt when the curtains were pulled back and the stage that was set to recognize our efforts as leaders was shown to us. My heart was so full and my eyes filled with tears as I thought of my staff back home and how they should be sitting right there beside me. No one who gets any sort of recognition does it alone, and I wanted everyone to be with me during this very special event. All of us had a moment to shine as Dr. L. Earl Franks, Executive Director of NAESP, shared remarks, and Ernie Mannino, Deputy Executive Director of NAESP, read each awardee’s name. As we crossed the stage, we each received a plaque from NAESP President Brian K. Partin, and commemorative bell from NAESP President-Elect Eric Cardwell.

After all principals were recognized, we stood up for the annual tradition of ringing our bells for all children we have served. To say I wasn’t emotional during this part of the ceremony would be an understatement. The pride and

**Agendas will be coming soon!**

**Click [HERE](#) to register for the 2018  
MASS Spring Conference - Helena -  
March 19-20!**

**Click [HERE](#) to register for the 2018  
METAtchED Spring Conference -  
Helena - March 19-21!**

***Administrative Vacancies for  
2018-19***

If you have administrative opening in your district for the 2018-19 school year, please contact Kim Scofield at 406-442-2510 or [samks@sammt.org](mailto:samks@sammt.org) with the position, district, contact information, closing date and link to online application (if available). We would like to post these vacancies to the [Employment Opportunities](#) page on the SAM website.

emotion that was boiling inside me as I rang my bell was almost unbearable. We DO have an important job and the beautiful part about education is that we won't let the flame burn out. We eagerly share our passions, our ideas, our successes and challenges to make schools better every day. I encourage you all to think about that someone who has inspired you and nominate them for the 2018 NDP for Montana. There are so many of you out there and I am ready to pass on this torch. It has been a great ride. Thank you SAM and MAEMSP-for challenging us all to be better educators, better informed, and better people.

*Sue Sweeney, Principal - Helena  
Schools, MAEMSP National Distinguished  
Principal*

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