

Input from Superintendents RE Montana Principals Conference

Email from NC Class B Superintendent on 4/5/18

Just wanted to let you know that the burden placed on small school districts with a joint conference during the school year, is undue. I've got two principals there and my veteran principal here addressing issues at 3 schools. It is less than ideal.

Should SAM continue with this format during the school year, my principals will most likely be staying home. It is a great idea and may be better suited as a summer conference or as an option during MCEL.

Email from NC Class B Superintendent on 4/6/18

I certainly hope the principals are learning together, but I have a suggestion. If the conference is to be combined, it should be after school is out. I will not allow all three of my principals to be gone at the same time again.

I have talked to several supt.s in the area and none of us will be allowing principals to attend another joint conference during the school year.

Email from NE Class C Superintendent on 4/6/18

I had some positive comments from principals regarding the combined Elementary and Secondary principal conferences. From the inside, this is a pretty good idea and helps get different levels together to discuss issues.

However, from a small school perspective this does not work well. It is difficult to have all administration gone at one time. I had an AD meeting and a Supt. meeting this week and was only able to attend because our principal did not go to the state convention, though he was told he could.

Larger schools may not have these issues, I am not sure, but this is a major supervision problem for small schools. I am taking over the HS Principal position as well as the Supt. position for next year but I will not be able to attend the state MASSP conference if it occurs with the Elementary conference. We need to have someone on duty.

I would like to see these split for the future.

The MASS Board of Directors met in web meeting format on 4/17/18, and here are the notes of their dialogue:

Feedback from Regions about [Montana Principals Conference 2018](#) (April 4-6)
Kirk asked for feedback from the regions about MPC. Kirk has heard from three superintendents that they are not in support of the combined conference. The MASSP and MAEMSP Executive Boards are meeting this week and need to make a decision about time of the year and whether or not to combine the affiliate conferences. Sunday-Tuesday is being looked at instead of Wednesday - Friday.

XXXX received feedback from a Class B school superintendent that he would not be sending all principals next year. He will try to gather more information at the May meeting.

YYYYY stated that she has had good feedback from the NW region even though it is more work for districts. She thinks January will be difficult. She favors having the conference when school is not in session.

ZZZZZ will ask for feedback at the May meeting.

AAAA has not received feedback.

BBBB has not had feedback as only a few schools have principals in her region.

CCCC reported high praise for the conference.

DDDD will ask for feedback at the May meeting.

EEEE stated the conference was well done and great to have a combined conference.

FFFF stated that it was a great networking time for her principals. She is concerned about asking principals to attend SAM AI and MPC both in the summer. YYYY agreed but wondered if SAM AI could incorporate networking time for principals. GGGG agreed with the difficulties of summer but is in favor of Sunday - Tuesday instead.

Kirk asked for MPC feedback that is gathered during May region meetings to be emailed to him.