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School Administrators of Montana

BULLETIN

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

Volume XL

JANUARY 2018

No. 270

A Time for Reflection

by Lance Boyd, MAEMSP President



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Upcoming Conferences and Meetings

Jan. 1st: SAM Office
Closed

Jan. 8th: SAM Needs
Assessment Survey Due

Feb. 28 - March 2: MCEC
Conference - Missoula

March 19 - 20: MASS
Spring Conference - Helena

As we head into a new year, most of us take a little time to take stock in what matters and what we can continue to do to help build upon our personal and professional lives. For me as I look back on 2017 I cannot help but be grateful for the wonderful family I have here in Great Falls. I am blessed to be married to my wife Kimberlee (teacher ☺) for the last 16 years. During this time, we have done many amazing things, but are no prouder than being the parents to our three children. Hunter, Hanna, and Hadlee are three amazing young people that have done many amazing things in their young lives. Every day they get up to prepare for the day with a smile on their face and head off to school. For all three of them school is a love. Not because it is easy or always fun, but because it is an opportunity to learn and better themselves. In our family education is a value-add. What that means is simple, it is a chance to better yourself and prepare yourself for what you want to do and be in life. It is also a chance to build relationships with friends that will last a lifetime. School is a chance for them to be who they are and who they want to be.

As we head back to our schools coming off a hopefully relaxing holiday break, I would like you to take time to think about 2017 and all those wonderful things you did for your students, staff, and community that you work in. After you have taken time to do that, I would like you to think about your students, all of them. I want you to ask yourself are your students looking at education and school every day as a value-add. Are they going home talking to their parents about the wonderful science lesson they had in school that day or the conflict that occurred on the bus, and telling their parents how they solved it or stood up to someone that was bullying someone else. School is a daily experience for all our students: an experience that should be enjoyable and memorable, an experience that brings its ups as well as its downs.

I also want you to take time to think about your school. The place you go to work every day and call your second home. I want you to take time to think about your staff and all the people within your building that work with students or have an impact on students daily. Ask yourself this one little question, are we creating memories and opportunities that will allow our students to be successful? In most cases, I imagine the answer to that question will be yes. The reason why I know this is the committed administrators that work in all Montana Public Schools.

Our Montana school administrators all work on a daily basis to make school enjoyable, memorable and impactful. Without each one of these people in our buildings, would we as educators be as successful as we are, and as we want to be? As we head into another busy year, I just want to take a minute to say Thank You! Thank you for what you do, thank you for your impact, and thank you for your service to our communities. Without each one of you, we would not be able to have the positive impact that we have on Montana schools daily. Here is to a successful 2018!!

Best Wishes!

Lance Boyd, Prinicipal and MAEMSP President

Montana School and District Leaders Influence Learning and Touch the Future!

SAM Membership - Strength in Numbers

by Pat Audet, SAM Associate Director

- [Click to Register](#)

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

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

April 17-19: MACSS
Spring Conference -
Whitefish - [Click for more
information](#)

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

Thank you to this
month's featured
Business Partners!



by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director



Happy New Year! Reflection on 2017 brings thoughts of thanks for the many, many blessings the people (quality education leaders) in are our association provide in dedicating their professional life to Montana's children. The excellence of the work of administrators all across our state is the difference maker in the education of our students. I have fondly referred to Montana administrators as being "in the perfect spot" to influence the dynamic learning that happens for our students. Through the dual roles of "being in the middle" to make recommendations to Boards of Trustees on the policy and governance of our schools to creating the excitement with quality educators that leads to effective student learning when ideas are implemented with fidelity! This joy of learning happens in our schools as a result of your great work and understanding of just how important your actions are to ensuring that children are given the best opportunity to reach their full potential. 2018 brings a renewed optimism to the opportunities in front of us. So, I'll begin the new year thanking each of our SAM members for what you do to make a difference and my hope for you is that 2018 will be outstanding professionally and personally as you serve your community as an educational leader!

Your membership in SAM is greatly appreciated, and the goal of our SAM team and board members is to be by your side, providing you with opportunities for advocacy and professional learning. The focus of the SAM strategic plan is intended to provide our members with supports, and value-added opportunities that will help you grow personally and professionally. I hope you will take action to utilize the resources available to you – most everything you need to get started can be found on the SAM website (www.sammt.org) or by making a call (442-2510) to our SAM team in Helena. Myself, Pat, Gary and Kim are dedicated to providing the best resources possible to practice your profession.

The new year is already upon us and we are very pleased to show all SAM members a first-half report for the FY18 membership numbers! To think that SAM was at an all-time high for memberships at 987 just two short years ago! Then last year, the SAM affiliates busted the 1000 membership barrier at 1020! For this current year, the 6 affiliates (MACSS, MAEMSP, MASS, MASSP, MCASE, META) and the Institutional Members are at a whopping 1032 memberships! Let's look at the breakdown for that past 3 years:

FY 16:

- MASS: 211
- MAEMSP: 321
- MASSP: 209
- MCASE: 67
- META: 90
- MACSS: 53
- Institutional: 36
- **Total: 987**

FY 17:

- MASS: 216
- MAEMSP: 326
- MASSP: 216
- MCASE: 69
- META: 107
- MACSS: 53
- Institutional: 33
- **Total: 1020**

FY 18:

- MASS: 217
- MAEMSP: 326
- MASSP: 227
- MCASE: 69
- META: 106
- MACSS: 55
- Institutional: 22
- **Total: 1032**



SAM Leadership

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Laurie Barron
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MASSP

Joel Graves
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Peter Hamilton
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Paul Culbertson
Vice President

Dan Kimzey
Past President

The new year begins with some new resources available to SAM members that will increase your ability to communicate with each other and access to “just in time” best practices. See in this bulletin, the overview of SAM Community Forums for creating dialogue around key topics that are on your mind. Give yourself the opportunity to learn about the new tools and put them to use to increase your efficiency of communication. Don’t forget to login to gain access to all of the tools available on the website.

Advocacy for our schools and the education of our students will continue to be a high priority in 2018. A click on the [Advocacy](#) tab on the SAM webpage is intended to provide you with concise information on advocacy efforts by SAM members at the local, state and federal level. [Advocacy Issues 2017-18](#) reveals the recent actions of the [Special Session](#) in November and [SAM’s Advocacy Priorities](#) for the coming year. It seems actions of the Federal Government are having a greater impact on Montana education and you can check out the latest details on the [Federal Issues followed by SAM](#) link. Don’t hesitate to contact me if you have questions when reviewing advocacy issues, or you just want to talk about strategies going forward.

Professional learning for Montana administrators is a key priority in 2018. The SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program ([LPLP](#)) 2017-18 is serving the needs of 69 Montana administrators. This professional learning delivery system is personalizing learning for each of our participating members, providing access to a rich Resource Center, and 7 Collegial Learning Networks (CLNs) are collaborating and sharing best practices in key educational areas impacting our state and nation. [SAM and Affiliate Conferences](#) are being created to address the learning needs of our members (as indicated in the SAM Needs Assessment). A click on the [link](#) will lead you to Conference descriptions, and registration information to make it easy for you to join your colleagues in professional learning.

My thanks to our organization’s members for your wisdom, participation and noble work for the education of Montana’s children!

Memberships for FY18 have still been coming in during 2nd quarter and more on the way as some schools/organizations have recently indicated. As many times said before, an organization is only as strong as its members. The SAM core values are reflected and enhanced even more as numbers increase:

- **Leadership**
- **Integrity & Professionalism**
- **Advocacy**
- **Professional Learning & Services**

The SAM office appreciates each and every one of you! Montana School Leaders are simply the BEST! The STRENGTH IN NUMBERS gets better each and every year for SAM and its members!

MASS and METatechED Spring Conference Registrations are Open!

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

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

Empowered Superintendents

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Pam Meier
President-Elect
Craig Crawford
Vice President
Jon Konen
Past President
Rick Chrisman & Dale Olinger
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Cal Ketchum
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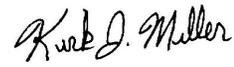
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Linda Marsh
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META
Rich Lawrence
President

SAM Office
Kirk Miller
Executive Director
Pat Audet
Associate Director
Gary Wagner
Operations Manager
Kim Scofield
Communications Specialist

Happy New Year!



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

Mitch Craft - Leadership with PLC's

Gerry Brooks - Communication

In attendance will be:

Toolkit

The Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) is dedicated to supporting the work of current and aspiring superintendents and district leadership teams in leading all aspects of digital learning transformations. As we begin the new year, CoSN is pleased to share the *CoSN Empowered Superintendents Toolkit* with SAM members. The CoSN Empowered Superintendents Toolkit was released in partnership with AASA, The School Superintendents Association, and is available at no cost. A description of the Toolkit and its components is posted at <http://www.cosn.org/superintendents>. You are welcome to download the Toolkit Executive Summary, Modules 1 & 2 and additional resources by entering your information on the form found at this link: <http://cosn.org/empowered-superintendent-toolkit-download>

If your school or district would like more information about joining CoSN or getting more involved with CoSN, please contact Ann McMullan, CoSN Empowered Superintendents Project Director, at amcmullan@cosn.org.

Did You Know?

Beginning January 15th your membership will include access to the exclusive SAM Community Forum area of the website.

The SAM Community Forum Communication Tool is an alternative to your affiliate E-List. E-lists are a notification tool in which responses are emailed to the entire affiliate membership and the Community Forum is a discussion tool. This new member benefit allows you to create topics to discuss the latest education and

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



**The SAM office will be closed
January 1st, but will be open again
on Tuesday, January 2nd!**

membership news. Post messages, documents, and subscribe to the topics that interest you the most!

To get started, login to the [SAM website](#), click on your *Member Landing Page* and click on the *Community Forum* tab. We have prepared a [DOCUMENT](#) and [VIDEO](#) to provide you with more detailed instructions on the use of Community Forums. As always, please call the SAM office if you have questions.

Ready, set, engage!

Thank you to SAM's Business Partners!

Please take time to visit their websites.

Montana Big Sky Sponsors



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Phone: 406-457-4400



Technology Innovation

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Email: hrogers@nccce.org
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[November 2017 Bulletin](#)

[October 2017 Bulletin](#)

[September 2017 Bulletin](#)

[July/August 2017 Bulletin](#)

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