

MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, February 19, 2019
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM



In attendance: Mike Perry, Loren Dunk, Alex Ator, Tobin Novasio, Renee Rasmussen, Bart Hawkins, Rick Duncan, Tom Stack, Kirk Miller, Kim Scofield

Not in attendance: Cal Ketchum, Nate Olson, Heather Davis Schmidt, Scott Chauvet, Greg Dern

Items for Discussion

1. [MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes 1-15-19](#)

Loren Dunk made a motion to accept the minutes; Renee Rasmussen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. [Advocacy Issues – Rick and Kirk](#)
· [2019 Legislative Session](#)

Kirk referenced the [MT-PEC Recent Legislative Benefit to Public Schools](#) that includes every school district and the impact of legislation over the past three sessions. The form indicates the annual funding increase and annual property tax relief due to passage of legislation - legislation that was advocated for through SAM and MT-PEC partners. This legislation has created more adequate and equitable school funding. Kirk stated that superintendents are leading the legislative actions. School board members consider the recommendations of the district superintendent, so he asked that the superintendents understand the benefits of MT-PEC advocacy and have the ability to relay this information to school board members and their legislators and community. Tom stated that he appreciates seeing this document because he will be able to discuss the benefit of the legislation when talking to his board members, legislators, and community members.

Kirk referenced the legislative schedule for the week. Rick stated HB 413 (addressing vaping in schools) and that vaping is not part of the smoke-free schools law currently in place, however this bill would add vaping to law. Thirteen proponents gave testimony on this bill today and no opponents spoke.

Kirk referenced the bills being heard on Wednesday, February 20 including HB 420 (grow your own programs to address teacher shortage); HB 459 (provide support for rural school recruitment and retention) that is being updated from monitor to support for SAM; HB 466 (Indian language and culture course); HB 247 (provide greater flexibility for school district financing of major maintenance) a SAM bill has passed the House and is headed to the Senate. HB 211 (quality educator loan repayment), HB 218 (CTE bill), and HB 295 (grant program to encourage work-based learning) will be heard in House Appropriations.

Kirk referenced the [SAM Followed Bills by Priority Status updated 2-9-19](#): HB 235 (Provide options, conditions for financing school health group plans) that was tabled in the House Human Services Committee. **Kirk asked that region presidents contact Senator Salomon and Representative Buttrey about supporting LC 2080.** Each district will have a choice to join the trust, so it will not affect those districts that do not choose to be part of the trust.

- [Federal Issues](#)

3. MASS Info and Topics of Discussion – *Cal*

- MASS Board Meeting - 6:00 pm March 17 in Helena. Dinner meeting at the Great Northern.

- [Day of Advocacy 2019](#) – March 18 in Helena
- [MASS Spring Conference 2019](#) – March 19 in Helena
- MASS President Elect – Application Closes March 1st
- MASS Retirees – *Mike*

Dustin Sturm, Mark Thane, and Carla Anderson. Nothing from Tammy Lacey. Mike will reach out to Al Buerkle to find out his status.

- [META Technologist of the Year Award](#)
- [MASS Membership](#) – *Gary*

Gary has updated the MASS Regional Membership 18-19 Google sheet. Kirk asked region presidents to contact those who have not renewed their membership. Kirk mentioned that the AASA dues structure is not changing next year. The March 17th MASS Board meeting agenda will include an action item for next year's MASS dues structure.

4. Updates from the Regions – *Regional Presidents*

NorthCentral: Loren reported that their last meeting in February included a legislative update from Kirk and discussion school safety with Reflex.

NorthEast: Renee reported that NE MASS will travel to Culbertson for their spring meeting and walk through the district with the administrators.

SouthCentral: Alex reported that SC MASS will continue to meet at the Windmill. They usually have 30 - 50 people at their meetings with more than just superintendents in attendance.

META always has a good report.

Western: Tom Stack reported that Andy Holmlund from MUST attended the last meeting along with NRA School Shield who reported that they will provide a better rate for training if more districts in an area register. Tom asked if other superintendents are doing anything other than DOJ background checks when hiring staff. Tobin, Alex, Renee, and Loren all reported that they only use the DOJ background checks. Tom stated that he had a situation take place recently where someone who he had hired had a child abuse case against them. Tom asked the DOJ why this had not shown up on a background check and he was told it was because charges were not filed. Kirk stated that SB 132 (Creating a student safety accountability act) does not extend the broader protections to environments outside of public schools. However, he feels that Tom's recent situation may have helped amend SB 132.

5. Professional Learning Opportunities – *Kirk*

- [SAM LPLP](#)
- [Montana Principals Conference 2019](#) –Follow-up
- [SAM Administrators Institute 2019](#)– July 29-31, 2019 in Helena

6. What's on Your Mind...

Tom asked if anyone is adding seat belts to buses. Tobin stated that they have seat belts in buses. Renee stated that her district had a bus with seat belts that made it impossible to use for high school activities so they are not using the bus. Kirk stated that federal regulations have not yet passed regarding seat belts in buses. Rick stated that bus depreciation funds could probably be used to add seat belts to buses.

Kirk stated that there will be a vacancy on the Variance to Standards Review Board and asked if anyone interested in serving in this position to please email him. Three names will be submitted to OPI, who will then choose the Variance to Standards Review Board member.

Next MASS Board Meeting scheduled for Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 6:00 pm in Helena.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kimberly Scofield
SAM Director of Member Services and Professional Learning