



MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

9:00 – 10:00 am

Join [SAM Zoom](#)

In Attendance: Dave Wick, Casey Klasna, Allison Evertz, Cal Ketchum, Nick Schumacher, Dr. Mike Perry, Hannah Nieskens, Dan Schmidt, Scott Kinney, Elliott Crump, Dr. Laurie Barron, Tony Warren, Tobin Novasio, Kirk Miller, Kim Scofield, Marcus Meyer

Not in attendance: Dr. Greg Dern, Thom Peck, Rick Duncan

Past President Klasna called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

Items for Discussion - *MASS President Dr. Greg Dern, Presiding*

1. Consideration of [MASS Board Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes 1-11-22](#) [Action]

Scott Kinney made a motion to approve the minutes; Cal Ketchum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of [MASS Strategic Plan](#) 2022-26 [Action] - *Dr. Greg Dern*

Kirk reviewed the work of the MASS Strategic Plan committee - Dr. Greg Dern, Dave Wick, Allison Evertz, Tobin Novasio, Rick Duncan, Hannah Nieskens, and Dr. Laurie Barron. The committee's four meetings resulted in the recommendation of the MASS Strategic Plan 2022-26. The plan includes three goals each with strategic objectives and actions. Laurie recommended an editorial change to 2.1.2. Nick asked if SAM has a plan to support the MT-PEC organizations through leadership changes. Kirk stated that assisting new association leaders in acclimating to their new roles and serving as one of the MT-PEC partners has created more meetings with the MT-PEC partners. Kirk reported that MASBO and MQEC will both soon have new Executive Directors.

Dr. Laurie Barron made a motion to approve the MASS Strategic Plan 2022-26; Tony Kloker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. 2022 MASS/METAtechED/MCASE Spring Conference March 21-22 ([Draft Schedule](#)) - *Dr. Greg Dern*

- Board Meeting – March 20 at 5:30 pm
- Business Meeting – March 21, 12:00 – 1:15 pm
- Retirements – *Dave Wick*
- Awards - Pins, Conference incentive
- President Elect election intro of candidates

Casey reported that the conference will include a virtual option with in-person being held at the Delta Colonial in Helena. Kirk reported that Dr. Dern has been working with Carol Phillips

(META President Elect) and Sara Novak (MCASE President) to create the conference agenda. Kirk reviewed the draft agenda.

Kirk asked that region presidents compile a list of retirees from their regions and report the names to Dave Wick. Recognition of award winners will take place at the conference during the Monday night banquet. He also asked that board members consider submitting an application for MASS President Elect or encourage others to submit an application.

4. MASS [Regional](#) Information

- MTDA Update (Jason Neiffer- Exec Director) available for presenting in regions

Kirk reported that Jason Neiffer is willing to present at region meetings on behalf of Montana Digital Academy - an education partner SAM. Laurie stated that she is receiving many requests from vendors to report at regional meetings and is unable to schedule all requests before the end of the year. She would appreciate some of the organizations reaching out in the fall instead of all in the spring. Kirk reviewed the SAM Business Partner policy that allows Glacier and Big Sky sponsors to attend affiliate region meetings. The SAM office will update the SAM Business Partner webpage to include sponsorship levels.

- MASS Region President Updates – *Region Presidents*

North East - Dan reported that the North East region has partnered with the Hi-Line region to bring in Richard Guerry from IROC2 to present on internet and cell phone safety, responsibility, and citizenship. A report was provided on CSPD as well as a report from OPI.

North West - Laurie reported that the region members meet twice a month - once virtually and once in person. Region members discussed ESSER data collection. The region members advocated that the deadline needs to be moved later in the spring, especially for smaller districts. Sharyl Allen reported that the date will be moved to mid-March. CSCT was also discussed at the last meeting. Laurie stated that many districts in the region are moving away from CSCT and are frustrated that a message did not come from OPI sooner. Laurie reported that three K-8 administrators in the region have announced their retirement. One of the region's large high schools will also be hiring a new principal. Region members are concerned about an administrator shortage in the area.

South East - Nick reported that the monthly meeting is scheduled for tomorrow in Miles City and Kirk will be in attendance. A discussion is scheduled with Jeff Kirksey from OPI concerning ESSER reporting. The Academic Olympics will be held March 8 - 9 and hosted by Miles City Community College. Recruitment and retention are a concern and the region members spend a lot of time supporting each other in hopes that administrators will remain in their positions. There will be several administrative openings in the region.

South Central: Allison reported that region members met last week both in person and virtually. Allison provided an update on the MASS Strategic Plan update and the recent call with Sec. Cardona. Region members also discussed the emergency connectivity fund. Presentations were given by Mary Anne Skinner (Infinite Campus - CRDC), legal update (prayer on the football field, removing items from a library), Carol Phillips

(conference report and suggested to bring IT coordinator to the conference), and John Fitzgerald (MHSA update).

4-Rivers: Hannah reported that Melissa Tovaas reported about summer professional development opportunities, Kirk provided a SAM and statewide update as well as a Board of Public Education update at the last meeting. Hannah invited region member, Susie Hedalen, to present at the next meeting as a Board of Public Education representative. She asked Susie to discuss how to access BPE resources, how to submit public comment, and how to participate or attend a BPE meeting.

Western: Scott reported that Dr. Julie Murgel reported on the upcoming teacher fair, ESSER fund reporting, and teacher residency training. The Montana Safe Schools Center reported about a new program to offer safe school training, Jason Butcher provided a Reach Higher update, Lance Melton and Emily Dean provided an update on the legislative goals of MTSBA, and a student teaching report from the University of Montana.

North Central: Elliott reported that Humanities Montana, which provides free social studies and science opportunities for students, presented at the last meeting. He encouraged members to have them present.

Hi-Line: Tony reported that Richard Guerry from IROC2 presented. The region members are planning a special meeting with MSUN faculty to discuss collaborating on staffing issues. There are currently three vacancies for superintendents in the region: CJI, Hays Lodgepole, and North Star with not many applications coming in. Tony stated that he is willing to share an International Teaching document that he has prepared.

5. [Advocacy Issues](#) Update— *Rick Duncan and Kirk Miller*

Kirk reported that advocacy issues are posted on the Advocacy webpage on the SAM website. Delegate Assembly Steering Committee meets this week to develop the call for positions and resolutions. SAM is preparing for the legislative session and will be forming the SAM Legislative Network prior to the session. Kirk stated that he has been monitoring bills that are in current legislation in surrounding states. He reported that the Chapter 57 recommendations to the Board of Public Education from the state superintendent differ from the recommendations of the task force. MT-PEC is working on a document to counter the state superintendent's recommendations to get back to the task force recommendations.

CI 121 which proposed to freeze property taxes is also a current advocacy issue. The SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee will review this issue to develop a SAM stance. Other advocacy issues include CSCT program implementation, HB 279 Tax Credit, ESSER, and ARPA issues.

6. AASA Executive Committee and Governing Board Updates – *Tobin Novasio, Dr. Laurie Barron, Dr. Mike Perry, Cal Ketchum*

- AASA National Conference on Education in Nashville – February 17-19, 2022

Dr. Perry reported that 2500 people are registered to attend NCE. A governing board meeting is scheduled during the conference. Cal encouraged members attending to upload their vaccination information to the conference app.

7. [MASS Financial Report](#) and [Membership](#) Update – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk reported that MASS membership is down eleven members. He encouraged region members to reach out to members who have not renewed their membership.

8. [SAM Update](#) – *Kirk Miller*

- Update on SAM Office Transition Plan
- SAM Professional Development Opportunities
- K-12 Vision Group Meeting on March 3-10-22

Kirk thanked the members who have participated in Chapter 55, Chapter 57, and Chapter 58 task forces. He encouraged members to pay close attention to the state superintendents recommendations He asked board members to promote the spring conference to their region members. Kirk reported that the SAM Week of Excellence is scheduled for June 8 - 10 and SAM Administrators Institute is scheduled for July 25-27.

Kirk encouraged board members to submit applications for the SAM Youth Endowment. The deadline is March 4, 2022.

Kirk reported that SAM's financial status is extremely strong. He reviewed the Executive Director succession plan and emphasized that funds have been set aside for the transition. He reported that six applications were screened by the SAM Executive Board and interviews will take place later this week. It was decided early on in the process that the process would remain confidential to protect the privacy of the applicants. He encouraged board members to share this process information with region members. Dr. Perry stated that he has heard complaints that the process is confidential. He stated that he thinks the new executive director may experience issues that will need to be addressed to the membership.

9. Future Meeting Dates – MASS Board Meeting 3-20-22 @ 5:00 pm Helena Delta Colonial Hotel

- [SAM Web Calendar](#)
- [2021-22 SAM Conference-Meeting Schedule](#)
- [2021-22 SAM and Affiliate Board Meeting Schedule](#)

10. What's on Your Mind ...

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Scofield
Director of Professional Learning and Member Services