



## MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

9:00 – 10:00 am

In attendance: Dr. Greg Dern, Dave Wick, Cal Ketchum, Casey Klasna, Elliott Crump, Nick Schumacher, Rick Duncan, Scott Kinney, Tony Warren, Dr. Mike Perry, Thom Peck, Hannah Nieskens, Tobin Novasio, Laurie Barron, Kirk Miller, Kim Scofield

Not in attendance: Dan Schmidt, Allison Evertz

President Dern called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

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

1. Consideration of [MASS Board Meeting DRAFT Minutes 3-20-22](#) [Action]

Elliott Crump made a motion to approve the minutes; Casey Klasna seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. 2022 MASS/META/MCASE Spring Conference March 21-22 - *Dr. Greg Dern*

- [Conference Landing Page](#)

Kirk and Kim reviewed the resources that have been added to the conference landing page including session recordings and presentations.

- [Conference Evaluation Summary](#)

Kirk and Kim reviewed the conference evaluation report which indicates a very successful conference as rated by conference attendees. The evaluation assists in future conference planning.

- [Conference Profit/Loss Financials](#)

Marcus reviewed the conference's profit and loss. The total profit for MASS is approximately \$11,265. Kirk explained that no profit from affiliate conferences stays with SAM. MCEL and SAM AI generate profit for SAM as an organization. Marcus explained that the platinum sponsor revenue went to META because those sponsors paid extra to speak specifically to META members. All other sponsors and vendor booth revenue was divided proportionally between MASS and MCASE, based on the percentage of attendees (70% MASS and 30% MCASE). Dave stated that the platinum sponsors more than likely want to also speak to superintendents, not only to school technologists. Kirk stated that each year META seeks tech companies to be platinum sponsors. This has been the only way for META, a newer affiliate, to gain revenue.

3. MASS [Regional](#) Information and President Reports

- [MASS Election Rotation Schedule as of 4-1-22](#)

- Announcing the 2022-23 MASS President Elect

Dr. Dern announced that Dale Olinger was elected as the 2022-23 MASS President Elect. Kirk stated that Cal Ketchum will be resigning his position as AASA Governing Board member which will result in an election. The past nomination and election process will be followed and will launch later this month.

· Delegate Assembly Delegates

Rick asked region presidents to send the names of delegates and alternates to President Dern, Kirk, and himself. The following regions reported delegate assembly representatives:

- C: Thom Peck Delegate and Hugo Anderson Alternate
- NC: Elliott Crump Delegate and no alternate
- NW: Dave Means Delegate and Micah Hill Alternate
- HL: Tony Warren Delegate and Brad Moore Alternate

· Election of Regional President (if up for election)

Elliott reported that he will be serving as the NC Region President again. The Western and Southeast regions will be electing new presidents

· Region Superintendent of the Year

Thom Reported that Nicole Hanson, Lavina, was elected as the Central Region Superintendent of the Year.

· MASS Region President Updates – *Region Presidents*

Central: Thom reported that at the meeting later today Rhonda Long, Fergus County Superintendent, will be discussing resources that are available locally and OPI will provide an update.

NC: Elliott reported that Sharyl Allen was invited to the last meeting but did not attend, but a representative from OPI provided an update. He encouraged board members to review the [Golden Triangle Summer Institute courses](#) that are open to all educators.

SE: Nick reported that the region members are meeting virtually tomorrow. They will be nominating a Regional Superintendent of the Year and electing a region president. They continue to discuss the recruitment of teachers and administrators in the region. Nick described an example of the power of MASS regions when recently the region members were able to connect to collaboratively plan for weather issues.

4R: Hannah reported that 4 Rivers MASS will meet on April 20th and finalize delegate assembly representatives and nominate the Regional Superintendent of the Year. The following presentations are on the agenda: Susie Hedalen (Townsend Superintendent and BPE), Rick Duncan (Delegate Assembly), Shawn Graham (TRS), and Ashley McGrath (OPI).

W: Scott reported that the following presentations are on the upcoming agenda: Chris Hyslop (Montana World Affairs Council), Bea Kaleva (legal update), Dani Smith (UM - student teaching/observation opportunities), Julie Murgel (OPI Update), Craig Crawford and Linda Cleatus (MT No Kid Hungry), Evan Monson (Cyber Safety Assessment), and a SAM update. Scott recommended that board members go back and listen to Joe Frolich's presentation from that spring conference which can be accessed from the conference landing page. Scott stated that he felt that at the last meeting it was important to put OPI on notice for the continuous exodus of employees at OPI that undermines the efficacy of Montana school districts. He expressed his concern and frustration to have limited staff at the office who can assist school districts and that many of the employees at OPI lack experience.

HL: Tony reported that Hi-Line MASS will be discussing a draft proposal from MSU-Northern that will provide a course to international teachers. Dr. Amy Smith is looking for school administrator feedback. She can be reached at [amy.smith@msun.edu](mailto:amy.smith@msun.edu).

SC: Tobin reported that the fourth OPI representative of the year was at the last meeting to provide an OPI Update. Other presentations included Kee Dunning (PBS, *Hiding in Plain Sight* movie that highlights the mental health crisis), Jeff Weldon (legal update), and Greg Upham (discussed the current situation of policies around high-needs students in Billings). Tobin stated that he is worried about these policy issues, especially for smaller districts.

NW: Laurie reported that Sharyl Allen provided an OPI Update at the last meeting. The region members also discussed the policy that allows students to attend other districts and the home district must pay for transportation and the inequities this creates. They would like this policy to continue to be discussed as an advocacy issue for SAM. Other topics: the region will go back to all in-person meetings next year, the region has 15 administrator vacancies with the majority still vacant, teacher housing, and recruitment/retention.

4. [Advocacy Issues](#) Update– *Rick Duncan and Kirk Miller*

Rick reported that April 29 is the deadline for new resolution and position statements to be submitted. He has received two proposals so far. He asked board members to contact him with questions or assistance in writing a proposal. The SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee will meet following that deadline to review proposals. The SAM Delegate Assembly is scheduled for June 9-10 in Helena. Hot topics include accreditation (Chapter 57 and Chapter 55), CI-121 (a proposed initiative that would freeze property taxes), and recruitment and retention of quality educators. Dave asked if general funding of education will be affected during the legislative session, especially with the current inflation. Kirk stated that there is a 3% cap on inflation that can be applied to the funding formula.

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

Tobin thanked Cal for his work on the Governing Board. He reported that an act to continue to provide universal breakfast and free lunches to students through Sept. 2023 will soon be introduced in the Senate. Senator Tester came out in support of this act immediately. He asked board members who have a relationship with Sen Daines to reach out to him to ask for his support. He stated that supporting this act is also showing support for our agricultural communities. Tobin reported that the Department of Labor is currently reviewing overtime laws. They are looking at “white-collar clauses” that could impact school districts. He stated that he and Kirk will be at the AASA Executive Committee Meeting in San Antonio in May to review budgets and strategic planning. Rick reported that the [AASA FY23 Appropriations Process - What you Should Know 3.31.22](#) is on the SAM website and outlines the significant proposed increases in Preschool IDEA and Title I.

6. [MASS Financial Report with Proposed FY 2022-23 Budget](#) and [Membership](#) Update – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk reviewed the proposed budget stating that the MASS Board will vote on it in May.

7. [SAM Update](#) – *Kirk Miller*

- K-12 Vision Project Update ([draft 4-6-22](#))
- [2022-23 SAM Membership Drive](#)

Kirk stated that the SAM membership drive will launch tonight at midnight. He asked that superintendents check with their business manager to update their membership and also to encourage membership in other affiliates for their district administrators. He reviewed the benefits of being a MASS/AASA member including the legal assistance and individual professional liability insurance. He asked that region presidents share this information with region members.

Kirk invited board members to review the SAM update. He highlights the SAM Week of Excellence (June 8 - 10) and SAM Administrators Institute (July 25 - 27). He asked board members to promote the SAM Administrators Institute with their region members.

#### 8. Future Meeting Dates –

- Next MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting is Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 9:00am – 10:00am
- [SAM Web Calendar](#)
- [2021-22 SAM Conference-Meeting Schedule](#)
- [2021-22 SAM and Affiliate Board Meeting Schedule](#)
- [2022-23 SAM Conference - Meeting DRAFT Schedule](#)
- [2022-23 SAM and Affiliate Board Meeting DRAFT Schedule](#)

#### 9. What's on Your Mind ...

Scott stated that he has volunteered to be a non-voting member of the Chapter 55 revision committee. He pointed out an issue he has with the current trend to push first year teachers in to master's degree programs even though they have no teaching experience. ARM 10.55.607 states that internships must be Montana accredited and OPI's stand is that the internships must be geo-located in Montana. Organizations like WGU do not meet the standard. Scott believes that this limits a school district's ability to hire new teachers who do not have a masters degree.

#### 10. Adjournment

Scott Kinney made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dave wick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM.

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