

MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

9:00 – 10:00 am



In attendance: Casey Klasna, Dr. Mike Perry, Dr. Greg Dern, Alex Ator, Darin Hannum, Elliott Crump, Rick Duncan, Nick Schumacher, Godfrey Saunders, Dan Schmidt, Brad Moore, Tobin Novasio, Matt Jensen, Laurie Barron, Scott Kinney, Kirk Miller, Kim Scofield

Not in attendance: NA

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

Items for Discussion - MASS President Casey Klasna, Presiding

1. Consideration of [MASS Board Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes 3-22-21](#) and [MASS Business Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes 3-23-21](#) [Action]

Darin Hannum made a motion to approve the minutes; Godfrey Saunders seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. [MASS Spring Virtual Conference](#) - March 23 – Review – Casey

Casey thanked the SAM office team for their effort in conducting a virtual conference. He reviewed the conference evaluations.

- [Evaluation](#), Comments/Input from the Board

3. Discussion of MASS support of Superintendents new to their position participating in the SAM LPLP 2021-22 – Casey

Kirk explained that the MASS Board has paid the registration fee for superintendents new to their positions over the past two years. Casey and several other board members in attendance agreed that they would like MASS to continue this policy.

4. Consideration of [MASS Proposed FY 2021-22 Budget](#) [Action] – Kirk

Kirk reviewed the MASS Budget pointing out that MASS budget has been nearly balanced for the past few years even though the budget proposed included an over-expenditure of funds.

Brad Moore made a motion to approve the budget; Darin Hannum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion of approved SAM Business Partnership Level/Benefit Change – Kirk

Kirk explained the change to the [SAM Business Sponsorship Proposed Benefit Levels 2021-22](#). The change approved by the SAM Board of Directors allows for the additional benefit of the “Opportunity to present at Regional Affiliate meetings (with regional president/director approval)” for SAM Business Partners at the \$7500+ level - Glacier and Big Sky business partners. Kirk confirmed that this change pertains to “for-profit” businesses, not non-profits or educational partners.

6. Elections and Appointments 2021-22 Update – *Casey*

- Region Presidents elections

Casey reminded region presidents to conduct elections in their regions.

- MASS [SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee Representative](#) appointment

Casey reported that Rick Duncan has been appointed as the SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee representative for MASS.

- President-Elect election

Casey reported that Dave Wick, Superintendent at Columbia Falls Schools, was elected as the MASS 2021-22 President Elect. He thanked Alex Ator and Bart Hawkins for also running for the position.

- MASS Regional Superintendents of the Year 2021

Casey reminded region presidents to elect Regional Superintendents of the Year in their regions.

- Delegates for Delegate Assembly appointments

Casey reminded region presidents to appoint delegates for their regions. Rick emphasized the importance of filling the ten seats MASS has on the Delegate Assembly.

7. [2021 Legislative Session](#) Update – *Kirk & Rick*

Kirk reviewed the resources available on the SAM website. He invited members to review the [SAMLN21 Legislative Update 14 SAM Status Report 4-2-21](#), as well as, the [SAM Followed Bills Priority Status Report 4.16.21](#). Kirk also explained that a graybill was recommended to Senator Solomon, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, that would replace the HB 329 bill language with the federal code on parentally placed students with disabilities. Rick stated that HB 329 is supported by the governor and the leadership of both the House and Senate. He reviewed HB 46 (inflationary increase for special education) that came out of committee on a 10-0 vote. This has been a goal of SAM for the last ten years or so. SAM also experienced a big win with the passing of HB 206 (tuition and in-state treatment). HB 279 (tuition tax credit) will be problematic if it passes. SB 388 (infrastructure through tax increment financing) has huge potential impacts to school districts in tourist areas. Kirk will be giving opposition testimony later today. HB 630 and HB 632 should be complete in the next few days and will include guidelines for school funding. Schools could possibly receive approximately 20% of the approximately \$50 million generated through the new marijuana tax in HB 663. Rick reported that the legislative session may end around April 30th which would allow for ten additional days to be scheduled for a later date. He stated that the calls-to-action have been successful. He invited members to attend the Lunch & Legislate sessions that take place each Monday at noon.

8. [COVID-19 Information for Schools](#) Update – *Kirk & Board*

Kirk invited board members to review the [Montana ESSER I, ESSER II, ESSER III Estimated Federal Stimulus Allocations by District 4-7-21](#). Kirk verified that some safeguards are in place to keep state government from withholding up to 20% of funds for invoking a more strict health regulation than

those invoked by the state. An amendment that will hopefully be adopted was added to the bill to make school districts exempt from this language.

9. Region President Updates – *Region Presidents*

- Information for Regions – [MASS Regional Information](#) webpage

Western: Scott reported that the region members held their first face-to-face meeting last week. Colet Bartow provided the OPI update, Rick Dahlgren - Center for Teacher Effectiveness presented on the Time to Teach model, Dani Smith, UM, shared placement of student teachers in western Montana. Scott has asked region members to share programs or applications that make their jobs easier with the rest of the members.

North West: Matt reported that the region members continue to meet remotely each week. They have been discussing COVID and legislative updates.

North Central: Elliott reported that the region members have been discussing HB 143. Lance Melton will be presenting on the implementation of this bill. They have also been discussing masking, which varies between districts. Mental health of staff and students and ESSER funds have also been on the agenda. Elliott reported that some of the region schools are in a co-op with Edgenuity so they can continue to provide distance learning in a centralized venue with one person overseeing the implementation. It has been effective this year.

Hi-Line: Darin reported that the region members held their first face-to-face meeting last week. Curtis Smeby presented on a regional PAX Good Behavior Game platform to provide regional professional development, U of M presented on grant services and the members discussed proms and masks. He reported that some districts have only had a few applicants for open positions.

North East: Dan reported that the region members are meeting first face-to-face tomorrow. The agenda includes hiring staff which they are having difficulties with. He stated that a boiler training is scheduled for June 15th in Bainville.

South East: Nick reported that discussion has been around masks, prom, and graduation. They decided to cancel the southeast region Academic Olympics. The region members met with the University deans to discuss recruitment and retention and how to advertise to openings to the teacher candidates. Most districts have decided not to continue with synchronous learning delivery but will look for other distance learning models if necessary. Nick reported that many local educators are not in favor of supplementing the salaries of new teachers.

South Central: Alex reported that the region members held their first face-to-face meeting. Attorney, Larry Martin, presented Title IX and local sexual harassment lawsuits. Alex asked for members interested in serving on a cybersecurity committee that would include the development of a cybersecurity curriculum. He asked interested superintendents and principals to let him know. Kirk stated that he has been serving on a cybersecurity task force for the past year. Tobin stated that they recently had a QPR training from Frederick Lee, a sheriff officer from Wolf Point. They are doing some work with parentguidance.org. He invited members interested in either of these resources to contact him.

Central: Brad reported that the region has been discussing legislative issues. They plan to have their May meeting in person in Lewistown.

4-Rivers: Godfrey reported that the region will be electing officers. They have been discussing legislative issues. The next meeting will be held next week.

10. AASA Governing Board Updates – *Tobin Novasio, Laurie Barron, Mike Perry*

Tobin reported that the Learning 2025 Report is available on the AASA website. There are some great webinars being offered by AASA. Tobin reported that the federal funds for education is very positive so far that will include Title I and IDEA funding. The governing board will participate in a budget update tomorrow.

11. [SAM Update](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Casey invited board members to review the SAM Update.

12. Future Meeting Dates

- MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting 5-11-21 9:00 10:00 am
- [SAM 2020-21 Schedule of Conferences and Board Meetings](#) and [SAM Web Calendar](#)
- [2021-22 SAM Conference - Meeting DRAFT Schedule](#) and [2021-22 SAM and Affiliate Board Meeting DRAFT Schedule](#)

13. What's on Your Mind ...

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 AM.

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