



MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

9:00 – 10:00 am

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

Not in attendance: Elliott Crump, Matt Jensen, Laurie Barron

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

Items for Discussion - MASS President Casey Klasna, Presiding

1. Consideration of [MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes 4-13-21](#) [Action]

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

2. Elections and Appointments 2021-22 Update – Casey

- [Region Presidents elections](#)
- MASS Regional Superintendents of the Year 2021
- Delegates for Delegate Assembly appointments

Each region reported their representatives for Region Presidents, Regional Superintendents of the Year, and Delegates for Delegate Assembly.

- 4-Rivers: President: [Hannah Nieskens](#), SOY: Larry Markuson, Delegate Assembly: TBD
- Central: President: Brad Moore, SOY: Brad Moore, Delegate: Brad Moore
- NC: President: Elliott Crump; SOY: Elliott Crump; Delegate: Elliott Crump
- W: President: Scott Kinney, SOY: Dale Olinger, Delegate: Mike Perry
- NW: President: TBD, SOY: Micah Hill, Delegate: Micah Hill
- SE: Representatives will be selected at the meeting on 5-12-21
- NE: President: Dan Schmidt; SOY: Dan Schmidt; Delegate: Dan Schmidt
- HL: President: Bart Hawkins; SOY: Bart Hawkins, Delegate: Tony Warren
- SC: President: Allison Evertz; SOY: John Fitzgerald or Mark Wandle; Delegate: Alex Ator

• President-Elect election

Casey reported that Dave Wick was elected as the 2021-22 MASS President Elect. He thanked those who also ran for the position.

• Announcement of [AASA Governing Board Seat opening and process](#)

Kirk reported that Tobin Novasio has been elected to the AASA Executive Committee leaving an open seat on the AASA Governing Board with a term running from 2021 to 2024. The application process is open to MASS/AASA members who have been members for the last three consecutive years. Interested candidates should complete the application by May 21, 2021. A ballot will go

out to all MASS members on May 22nd and will close on June 4th with an announcement made on June 7th. Submitted applications will be included with the ballot to assist MASS members in voting.

3. Advocacy Update – *Kirk & Rick*

- [2021 Legislative Session](#)

Rick reported that the legislative session was positive for public education and SAM's advocacy priorities, especially knowing that the legislative landscape was going to be different from the prior session. SAM's priority of funding and special education funding had a positive outcome. Governor Gianforte has not signed HB 46 (Revise Special Education Funding) yet, but must do so by Thursday or it will automatically become law. The other two big wins for SAM are HB 630 (passed) and HB 632 (awaiting Gov. signature). Both of these bills allocate Covid relief funds. Rick also reviewed the following:

- School Funding
 - HB 279 (Revise laws related to tax credit scholarship) - passed and is a challenge for SAM
 - HB 329 (Establish students with special needs savings account) and HB 633 (Establish the public charter schools act) - both failed - big wins for SAM
- Recruitment and Retention of Quality Educators
 - HB 143 (Provide incentives for increasing starting teacher pay) and HB 403 (Create "grow your own" teacher grant program) - both passed - big wins for SAM
- Infrastructure and Technology
 - HB 181 (Reauthorizing the e-rate broadband program) and SB 297 (ConnectMT Act to establish broadband deployment) - both passed - big wins for SAM
- Other issues
 - The legislature focused on education policy and curriculum which in many bills are a direct assault on the authority of the Board of Public Education and the supervision and control of schools by the school district board of trustees.
- Revenue and Taxation
 - SB 388 (Provide for infrastructure through tax increment financing) - passed - a challenge for SAM
 - HB 2 (General appropriations act) - passed
- Pension Laws
 - HJ 8 (Provide for a study of pension laws) - passed - supported by SAM
- State Policy
 - HB 435 (Generally revise civil liability laws for government) - passed - provides immunity of lawsuit for government entities - supported by SAM

Rick thanked the SAMLN21 stating that every Call to Action (except for Call to Action #8 on HB 279) was successful. Kirk invited board members to review the [SAM 2021 Legislative Session Summary DRAFT 5.7.21](#). He stated that professional learning opportunities will be available to SAM members around the flexibility of resources resulting from the 2021 Legislative Session. The first professional learning opportunity, the MT-PEC After Advocacy Event, is tentatively scheduled for May 24th and will follow a virtual format.

Dave asked about the possibility of Governor Gianforte vetoing HB 46. Kirk stated that he has been in contact with the governor encouraging him to sign the bill. Mike asked why the entire education community was not in support of HB 435. Kirk reported that MFPE did not support the bill because it could potentially expand health risk issues for school personnel.

- SAM Delegate Assembly 2021

Rick reported that Delegate Assembly is scheduled for June 10 - 11 and will be held virtually or in person at the Delta by Marriott in Helena with New Delegate Orientation and Caucuses on June 10th from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. The full Delegate Assembly will meet on June 11th from 8:00 AM to Noon.

4. Region President Updates – *Region Presidents*

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

- Western: Scott reported the last meeting was held in-person in Missoula. Kirk provided a SAM update, Bea Kaleva provided a legal update, Colet Bartow provided an OPI update, and Dani Smith provided a UofM update.
- Northwest: Dave reported that the region continues to meet virtually each week. Discussion around how to prepare new trustees for their position took place at the last meeting.
- North Central: No report
- South East: Nick reported that the region has been discussing new trustee training, planning for next year, distance learning options, CTE standards, and negotiations.
- North East: Dan reported that Edgenuity and McKinstry presented at the last meeting and Tracy Moseman provided an OPI update. Seven superintendent positions are changing personnel in the region next year. They discussed upcoming conferences and region trainings. Dan recommended Frederick Lee for QPR training to board members.
- Hi-Line: Darin reported that Boardworks presented and Kirk provided a SAM update. The Hi-Line is having a difficult time hiring staff.
- 4-Rivers: Godfrey reported that Kristi Jacobs presented on SEL Competencies and Rick provided a legislative update at the last meeting. Officers were also elected.
- South Central: Alex reported that the region members have met in person the last two meetings. Adam Milligan (Reed Point trustee) provided a data research presentation and Felton/Martin reviewed a few supreme court cases that affect school districts. The region will be meeting on May 26th and will serve as a social event where they will recognize the Regional Superintendent of the Year.
- Central: Brad reported that the members had their first in-person meeting last week. Edgenuity presented. Several personnel changes are taking place in the region. Districts are having a difficult time hiring staff as well as providing housing for staff.

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

Tobin reported that the AASA Advocacy Conference is scheduled for July 13-15 in Washington DC. NCE is scheduled in Nashville in February. Kirk and Tobin have been asked to participate in the American Rescue Plan Committee through AASA working directly with the Secretary of Education. He asked those with recommendations for allocating ESSER funds to pass them on to either Kirk or himself.

Mike encouraged board members to visit the AASA website for a list of free webinars. Tomorrow at noon a webinar is scheduled focusing on school construction and how to use the ESSER II and III funds for construction.

6. [SAM Update](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk encouraged members to review the document. SAM LPLP 2021-22 registration is open. He invited board members to attend the SAM Week of Excellence events as well as the SAM Administrators Institute. All events will be held in person and virtually. Registration for SAM AI will be coming out soon. MCEL is scheduled for October 20 -22 and is also planned for a blended delivery.

7. MASS Board Reorganization

- Recognizing outgoing board members – Mike Perry (Past President), Darin Hannum (HLMASS), Godfrey Saunders (4RMASS), WMASS ?, NWMASS ?, SEMASS ?, NEMASS ?, SCMASS ?
Casey thanked outgoing board members Mike Perry, Darin Hannum, Godfrey Saunders, Alex Ator, Matt Jensen for their service to the MASS Board of Directors.
- Seating of new board members – Dave Wick (President-Elect), Hannah Nieskens (4RMASS)
Casey welcomed new board members Dave Wick, Hannah Niesens, Allison Evertz, and Bart Hawkins
- Recognition of outgoing President – Dr. Mike Perry recognizes Casey Klasna
Mike thanked Casey for his leadership over the past year.
- Seating of new President – Casey Klasna introduces Dr. Greg Dern
Casey welcomed Dr. Dern as the new MASS President.

8. Future Meeting Dates

- [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](#)

Kirk invited board members to review the schedules.

9. What's on Your Mind ...

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM.

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