



# MASS Board Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes

Monday, March 22, 2021  
1:00 – 2:00 pm

Join [SAM Zoom](#)

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, Scott Kinney, Kirk Miller, Kim Scofield

Not in attendance: Laurie Barron, Tobin Novasio, Matt Jensen

President Klasna called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.

## Items for Discussion - MASS President Casey Klasna, Presiding

1. Consideration of [MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes 2-9-21](#) [Action]

Darin Hannum made a motion to approve the minutes; Alex Ator seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. MT-PEC Virtual Day of Advocacy – March 22 – Review – *Casey & Kirk*

Casey reported that the MT-PEC Virtual Day of Advocacy was cancelled due to scheduling issues.

3. MASS Spring Virtual Conference- March 23 – Review – *Casey*

Casey reported that the conference begins at 7:30 AM on Tuesday, March 23rd. He reviewed the agenda. A legislative update will take the place of the MT-PEC Day of Advocacy Review. Kirk reviewed the conference landing page.

4. [MASS Business Meeting Agenda](#) – March 23 – Review - *Casey*

Casey reviewed the meeting agenda. Kirk emphasized that even though the last MASS Business meeting will take place on March 23rd, however, MASS Board members do not leave the board until May. Also, each region chooses their Delegate Assembly representative(s).

5. [MASS Financial Report 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY 2020-21 with Proposed FY 2021-22 Budget](#) – Review - *Kirk*

Kirk reviewed the financial report. He reminded board members that the payment to AASA has not been paid yet. Kirk reviewed the budget stating that there is a line item in the MASS budget to continue to pay for new superintendents to participate in SAM LPLP.

6. [2021 Legislative Session](#) Update – *Kirk & Rick*

Rick reported that HB 15 (K-12 Inflation funding) has passed both houses and the governor will be signing it. HB 46 (Special Education funding) passed through the House and will be in the Senate later this week. Kirk will be sending a call to action to the SAM Legislative Network when this bill is in the House Education Committee. HB 46 will be a policy that will go into effect in 2022. Kirk and Rick will

be preparing talking points for members to include in their call to action. HB 329 (Special Education voucher bill), a bill that SAM opposes, passed the House and is moving to the Senate.

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

Kirk reviewed the resources available on the [COVID-19 Information for Schools](#) webpage. This webpage is updated almost daily. The date it is updated is indicated on the homepage of the SAM website.

8. Elections and Appointments 2021-22

- Region Presidents elections

Each region will manage their election and report the results back to the SAM office.

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

Scott Kinney made a motion to recommend Rick Duncan to the SAM Board to serve as the MASS Delegate Assembly Steering Committee Representative, Alex Ator seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- President-Elect election: Ballots will be sent to all MASS members on Wednesday, March 24th and close April 7th.

9. Region President Updates – *Region Presidents*

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

Hi-Line: Darin reported that the Hi-Line region still continues to meet weekly. Most districts are holding proms and are not permitting outside visitors.

4-Rivers: Godfrey reported that McKinstry presented at the last meeting. They have also been discussing COVID issues.

Western: Scott reported that T-Mobile presented at the last meeting. T-Mobile is dedicated to helping bridge the homework gap by offering free devices to students across the United States through Project 10Million and approximately 6500 devices are earmarked for Montana. Scott forwarded T-Mobile to the SAM office to discuss the possibility of a SAM business partnership. Representatives from the Clark Fork Coalition who are doing research on the watershed and looking for program participants for the summer. Scott stated that there have been irregularities with MHSA this year and voting is taking place by athletic directors on behalf of school districts on budgetary issues without the knowledge of the district superintendents. He is going to pen a report voicing his concerns. Scott would like the votes to be transparent. Rick agreed with Scott's concern and will work with Scott on the report. Alex and Godfrey also volunteered to assist. Alex stated that he had the same conversation with the Executive Director of MHSA. Scott will send the report to the MASS Board of Directors when complete so members can choose to sign on to it. Dan stated that he has experienced the same type of issue with MHSA.

Central: Brad reported that the region members continue to meet weekly.

Northeast: Dan reported that MUST and Dr. Farr presented at the last meeting. The region members are now meeting monthly face to face.

South Central: Alex reported that the region members will be meeting in person again after a year of meeting virtually. MUST presented at the last meeting. The region members have been discussing mask mandates and legislative issues.

North Central: Elliott reported that the region members are not meeting this month. He stated that he thinks the board members should approach the MHSA issue cautiously and communication between district leadership, athletic directors, and coaches is important. Scott stated that he agrees that superintendents do not need to vote on every issue however he has not seen possibly contentious issues that do not require approval from a board member.

Southeast: Nick reported that region members have been discussing prom, spring sports, insurance, negotiations, recruitment and retention.

Northwest: No report

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

Mike reported that most of the discussion has been around ESSER funds. He congratulated Elliott for hosting an outstanding Class B/C State Wrestling Tournament and to Dan for hosting a face-to-face conference in Billings. Mike stated that he was able to participate on a call with Montana’s congressional delegation about impact aid and infrastructure bills. He asked if board members have infrastructure issues in their districts to please pass that information on to him and he will forward the information to the delegates.

11. [SAM Update](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk invited board members to review the SAM Update document.

12. Future Meeting Dates

- [SAM 2020-21 Schedule of Conferences and Board Meetings](#)
- [SAM Web Calendar](#)
- [2021-22 SAM Conference - Meeting DRAFT Schedule](#)
- [2021-22 SAM and Affiliate Board Meeting DRAFT Schedule](#)

Kirk stated that SAM is planning to host the Evening of Excellence, Golf Tournament, and Delegate Assembly in June as well as the SAM Administrators Institute in Helena in July. This year also marks SAM’s 50th Anniversary.

13. What’s on Your Mind ...

The meeting was adjourned at 1:56 PM.

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