

# MASS Board of Directors DRAFT Minutes

Sunday, March 17, 2019

6:00 pm

Helena Great Northern



In attendance: Cal Ketchum, Mike Perry, Loren Dunk, Alex Ator, Tobin Novasio, Renee Rasmussen, Bart Hawkins, Rick Duncan, Tom Stack, Nate Olson, Greg Dern Kirk Miller, Gary Wagner, Kim Scofield

Not in attendance: Heather Davis Schmidt, Scott Chauvet

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

## Agenda

*MASS President Cal Ketchum, Presiding*

1. Mega Issue (6:00-6:20 pm): Breakfast After the Bell and No Kid Hungry – *Governor Steve Bullock*

Governor Bullock and Linda Cleatus addressed the board. They mentioned the following: \$420,000 of grant money has been raised for districts to implement Breakfast After the Bell. 17% of Montana students are identified as food insecure since the program has been implemented which is down from 22%, 59% of free and reduced students and 91.3% of schools participate in the school breakfast program. Governor Bullock thanked the board for helping make these gains happen. HB 648 (Create state program to incentivize school breakfast program) will be heard at 3:00 tomorrow by the House Education Committee. Linda stated that funding from HB 648 must go directly to fund food programs.

Kirk mentioned that Gov. Bullock will be receiving the CoSN Excellence in Public Service Award tomorrow at the META conference and reported that this is directly related to the MASS and META effort to expand broadband connectivity for our schools through the partnership with the Governor, Education SuperHighway, OPI, Department of Commerce and MREA. This project was launched at the MASS Spring Conference in 2016!

2. Additions to Agenda

None noted.

3. Approval of the [MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes 2-19-19](#)

**Bart Hawkins made a motion to accept the minutes; Nate Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. Old Business

1. [MASS Financial Report 2018-19 and Proposed 2019-20 Budget](#) - Discussion

Kirk presented the MASS Financial Report 2018-19 and Proposed 2019-20 Budget. He mentioned that having a reserve is acceptable because even though MASS is a nonprofit organization, the funds are available to complete the goals of the organization.

2. Recent Resources for MASS Members – Discussion

- a. [RISE4MT Update 1-9-19](#) and [MT 2018 R&R Survey Results & Summary](#)

Kirk reviewed the survey results, which include data from teachers and administrators, that provide information to have the ability to tell the story of education in Montana to the

public. HB 211, HB 235 (tabled), HB 420 are bills presented during this session that relate to recruitment and retention.

b. [Recent Effects of MT-PEC Coalition Efforts on District Budgets](#)

Kirk referenced the document that was prepared by the MT-PEC partners. MT-PEC meets often to discuss legislation and the effects of legislation on Montana school districts. He stated that the partners have decided several times to provide one testimony on behalf of the group instead of six testimonies that echo the same message. Tobin asked about the preschool bill since .5 ANB will be less than what his district is now receiving through their Pre-K pilot program. Kirk stated that the MT-PEC memo sent on March 16th came about from the MT-PEC partners not wanting to allow for privatization with public funds for preschool. Kirk stated that this a difficult issue because SAM supports preschool as part of the advocacy priorities, but opposes privatization with public funds - also a SAM advocacy priority. Kirk stated that the standards are already written for Pre-K. Tobin added that currently the Pre-K teacher must be working on their early childhood endorsement. Kirk stated that there are requirements for certification in the current bill. Alex thanked Kirk for the work he and the MT-PEC partners are doing during the session.

c. [FY 2020 Preliminary Budget Data Sheets](#)

Kirk referenced the budget data sheets which depict budgets that are dependent on taxable valuation and enrollment of districts.

3. Consideration of MASS Board Leadership Web Meetings in the Future - Discussion

Cal stated that he is in favor of continuing the meetings. Tobin stated that he feels more informed going to his local meetings after attending a MASS Board Leadership Web Meeting. There was consensus that the Board would like to continue monthly leadership web meetings. Renee requested that Kirk connect virtually to the Northeast region meetings a few times each year. Kirk asked that region presidents contact him or the SAM office anytime they would like him to attend or connect virtually to region meetings.

5. New Business

1. Consideration of [MASS and AASA Membership Dues 2019-20](#) – Action

Kirk referenced the 2018-19 MASS/AASA dues structure and described the breakdown of the dues. AASA dues are not changing for 2019-20. Kirk recommended no change in MASS membership dues for next year.

**Alex Ator made a motion to keep MASS membership dues the same for 2019-20.**

**Loren Dunk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

2. Consideration of [MASS Budget 2019-20](#) – Action

Tobin asked how the SAM Office transition would change the affiliate budgets. Kirk stated that the recommendation to the SAM Executive Board will be to move forward with the current staff at SAM and that changes in the SAM office will not affect the affiliate budgets.

**Loren Dunk made a motion to accept the budget; Tom Stack seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

3. [SAM LPLP](#) 2019-20 – Discussion

There was consensus that the MASS Board of Directors would like SAM to continue the LPLP program. Renee would like Kirk to discuss SAM LPLP at a Northeast region meeting because there are so many new administrators in the region. Mike mentioned that other states are interested in the program after learning about it at NCE. Tobin stated that he hired a new principal with the stipulation that he will participate in SAM LPLP next year. Tom stated that the MASS directors need to advertise the program when they know of a new administrator. Rick stated that SAM LPLP is not self-sustaining but it is important. He sees a direct relationship between an administrator's success and participation in SAM LPLP. Tobin suggested that

membership for a new MASS member could increase by \$500 and require participation in LPLP. Renee thinks boards would need to be educated. Tobin suggested showing school board members the data around job satisfaction and longevity. Kirk suggested region presidents contact new administrators to encourage participation in SAM LPLP. He asked if MASS would help pay the \$500 fee for new superintendents to participate as META has done for a group of their members to participate in the SAM LPLP TLE CLN.

**Tobin made a motion to prepare a proposal for new superintendents to participate in SAM LPLP; Renee seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Rick asked if there is a way to measure the effectiveness of our Providers once they are out of the field. Kirk stated that the Providers meet at least once a month to discuss what issues they are dealing with and keep up on their professional development. Surveys of the members provide feedback on Provider performance. In the 5 years of this work, only a few members have expressed any concerns with a provider and those situations were resolved expeditiously.

4. [SAM Administrators Institute 2019](#) – Discussion

Kirk reviewed the SAM AI 2019 schedule. Registration will be launched the first week of April along with the launch of the SAM Membership Drive and SAM LPLP 2019-20. Cal stated that he works with his administrators to make attendance at SAM AI professional learning days that they can trade for other days throughout the year.

5. [MCEL 2019](#) – Discussion

MCEL 2019 will be in Billings October 16-18 at the Northern Hotel and the DoubleTree. Registration will open in June.

6. President's Report – *Cal Ketchum*

a. [MT-PEC Day of Advocacy](#), [MASS Spring Conference 2019](#), and [Business Meeting Agenda](#)

Cal referenced the agendas for the upcoming events.

b. AASA National Conference on Education ([NCE 19](#)) Report

Cal referred to Bill Daggett's presentation on artificial intelligence at NCE 2019.

Personalized learning was also on the forefront of conference topics. Cal encouraged others to attend the conference in the future. NCE 2020 will be in San Diego.

c. [Membership](#)

Kirk reviewed the SAM membership report and stated that MASS State Only memberships dropped from 47 last year to 28 this year with the implementation of the opt-out selection.

d. Updates

No other items were mentioned at this time.

7. President-Elect Report – *Dr. Mike Perry*

a. AASA Conference Incentive Award Reports'

Casey Klasna and Scott Kinney attended NCE this year. Mike encouraged others to apply for the incentive award next year.

b. MASS Retiree Recognition Celebration

c. MASS Years of Service Pins

d. MASS President-Elect Election and Region President Elections (Report by May 21 MASS Board Web Meeting)

Mike stated that two MASS members are running from President-Elect. Ballots will go out March 20 and close April 3. Request was made of regions to select their Region President and be prepared to report that at the May 21 MASS Board Leadership Web meeting.

e. MASS Regional Superintendents of the Year (Report by May 21 MASS Board Web Meeting)

Request was made of regions to select their Superintendent of the year and be prepared to report that at the May 21 MASS Board Leadership Web meeting.

f. MASS Fall Conference 2019

Mike stated that the MASS fall conference will be combined with MCASE. He and Michelle Halberg - MCASE President Elect) are working on the agenda. Randy Russell from Washington will be presenting.

## 8. Regional Director's Reports – *Regional Presidents*

Central Region: Greg Dern reported that they are working on a partnership with MSU to create a class where 70-80 students from MSU will visit districts and take part in three experiences throughout a school year.

Southcentral Region: Alex Ator reported that the meeting was canceled last month due to weather. Rick will be visiting next month.

Hi-Line Region: Bart Hawkins reported that Kirk attended the meeting in November. The MSU-Northern Provost was also in attendance to discuss the education program at the university since the program's enrollment has dropped dramatically. New staff has been hired, an advisory board has been established, and efforts to bolster the education program are being attempted. The university would like to work with local superintendents to help increase enrollment and improve the program.

Northcentral Region: Loren Dunk reported that Kirk provided a legislative update in February. The March meeting only lasted 15 minutes due to an explosion at the refinery across the street.

Southeast Region: Nate Olson reported that Dianne Burke gave a legislative update, dictionaries were distributed to students, TJ Eyre discussed OPI updates, and a discussion about how to fund Academic Olympics were on the agenda for the last meeting.

Northeast Region: Renee Rasmussen reported that the region members are discussing recruitment and retention and how to compete with North Dakota, technology, OPI updates, TRS, and legal issues. The region has about 25 members and 20+ attend each meeting.

Western Region: Tom Stack reported that OPI provides an update each month and Dennis Parman gave a legislative update at the last meeting. He stated that most Western MASS members have noticed a decline in their budgets. Kirk stated that special education funding was not part of the preliminary budget data sheets and reminded members that enrollment and taxable valuation impact budgets in a significant way. Renee mentioned that she would like to see redistricting of some of the special education co-ops.

Northwest Region: Cal reported that the members have been discussing health insurance options for their districts.

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

a. [Legislative Update](#)

Rick reviewed the SAM advocacy priorities and the SAM Followed Bills Priority Status Report. He highlighted the following: HB 159 - the education funding bill - has already passed which allows for early budgeting; LC0291 - the preschool bill; SB 92 - allows for permissive levy for safe and secure schools - funding does not have to stay in facilities; HB 247 (SAM bill) - provide greater flexibility for school districts in financing major maintenance - is awaiting the Governor's signature; HB 648 - incentivize school breakfast program - is being heard in House Education committee tomorrow. Rick asked board members who are available during the Day of Advocacy to testify on HB 387 and HB 351. Kirk provided written testimony for Cal and Mike to use in their comments to the Senate Education committee.

Mike asked about SB 132 -Creating a student safety accountability act. Kirk stated that he feels the bill will pass but he is concerned that this bill only targets public schools and does not include protecting students in private schools and private activities. He asked that SAM members speaking in support of this bill would also speak to an amendment that would include private institutions.

Renee stated that several eastern MT schools are in support of HB 459 - provide support for rural school recruitment and retention. She asked those who wanted to support this bill to call the Governor's office and speak to their legislators.

Kirk reviewed HB 420 - encourage grow your own program to address teacher shortage - and stated that there are three components: education as a career pathway in high schools, working with the university system, and scholarship for the student.

b. [Federal Issues](#) – [NDD Budget Considerations](#) and Public Schools Week

Rick discussed the request from AASA to join an action alert. The MASSP and MAEMSP delegates currently in Washington DC plan to carry this message to the Montana legislators. AASA has also asked Montana to sign off on a letter to raise the cap on non-defense discretionary spending. Senator Tester is carrying two bills that focus on NEST and REST - recruitment and retention bills. These bills will apply to administrators as well as teachers. Rebuild America's Schools Act is currently being presented federally.

10. [Executive Director's Report](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk referenced the Executive Director's Report. He asked if the MASS Board would like the SAM office to clean up the MASS ODR and MASS Constitution. He also referenced the MASS Board of Directors Election Rotation. The MASS ODR states that all region director terms are up each year. The board agreed that they would like the SAM office to clean up the MASS governing documents and present the changes at a later date.

11. What's on Your Mind...

Meeting adjourned at 8:52pm.

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