

META Board Reorganization Meeting DRAFT Minutes

June 2, 2021

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM



SAM Office or Join [SAM Zoom](#)

In attendance: Everett Holm, Brian Norwood, Scott Baldwin, Paul Kozlowitz, Adam Toombs, Branson Rogers, Darlene Hess, Travis Baumann, Zabrea Fiscus, James Krippes, Kirk Miller, Kim Scofield

Not in attendance: Robert Parker, Rich Lawrence, Mitch Irvine, Mindy Obert, Carol Phillips, Detlef Schlieper, Jeredene Mayfield,

President Holm called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM.

AGENDA

Call Meeting to order and Introductions - Presiding – *Everett Holm*, META President

1. **Approval of [META Board Leadership Web Meeting 4-14-21 DRAFT Minutes \[Action\]](#)**

Adam Toombs made a motion to approve the minutes; Travis Baumann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mega Issue Discussion – META and Chief Technology Officer contributions to implementing strategies for school reopening for the 2021-22 school year

President Holm introduced the Mega Issue Discussion and invited board members to share their strategies for reopening school for next year. The following strategies were discussed:

- Everett: His district is attempting to go back to normal. Masks will continue to be worn. Devices will be kept at school next year. He suggested that board members reach out to their internet providers to identify families who qualify for rate reductions. Everett writes a monthly report to the board of trustees to keep them informed of technology issues in the district. An issue they face is students not bringing charged devices to school.
- Adam: His district has been fortunate to be in person all year. Distant learning will not be offered next year.
- Brian stated that Lolo has been in person learning all year and will not offer distant learning next year.
- Paul: MCPS will continue their online academy, with decreased enrollment. The district will be following the CDC guidelines for masks. Finding parts suppliers for Chromebooks is a challenge. He stated that one-to-one is difficult because it is essential to have backup devices on hand for students who forget their device or have a device that isn't working. MCPS is trying to make connectivity easier for students who bring their own devices.
- Darlene: Lockwood will begin the year without masks but will follow CDC guidelines. They are gathering devices from students who checked them out this year. They are finding quite a bit of damage to devices.
- Travis: The IT department is currently assessing the damage to devices.

2. **META Business**

1. Review of [META Strategic Plan 2019-23](#) Progress – *Everett Holm*

Everett reviewed the META Strategic Plan.

2. [META Financial Report FY 2020-21 with Approved FY 2021-22 Budget](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Everett stated that the 2021-22 budget has been approved. He reminded board members that the 2021 conference resulted in mostly profit and minor expenses due to the virtual delivery platform and business sponsors.

3. META Elections and Appointments Update – *Everett Holm*

- META Region Directors elections

Everett, Carol, and Brian will continue serving as officers for the 2021-22 year. Mitch Irvine is taking Mindy's place as 4-Rivers Co-Director and Zabrea Fiscus will be replacing Scott Baldwin as a Central Co-Director.

- META Delegates for Delegate Assembly

Everett reviewed the SAM Delegate Assembly schedule for June 10 -11 and the list of Delegates. Rich is serving as the META representative on the Delegate Assembly Steering Committee.

4. META Project Updates – *META Project Leaders*

- Cybersecurity Contact and Student Data Privacy continue as the main META projects. Kirk added that broadband distribution will be an effort organized by Governor Gianforte's office due to the passing of recent legislation. The goal of the effort is to ensure broadband saturation across the state. Kirk continues to recommend that a META board member participate in this state-level committee. Paul and Everett both expressed interest in serving on the committee.

5. META Awards – [META Technologist of the Year](#), [META Empowered Superintendent of the Year](#), META Years of Service Pins – *Everett Holm & Brian Norwood*

Everett stated that Carol Phillips was awarded the META Technologist of the Year and Heather Davis Schmidt was awarded as the META Empowered Superintendent of the Year. META Years of Service pins will be awarded in person if possible and then mailed to members.

6. [Membership](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk reviewed the META and SAM membership report stating that both organizations are experiencing record membership. The 2021-22 membership drive began on April 6th. Everett encouraged board members to check with their district clerk to ensure their membership has been renewed for 2021-22.

7. Consideration of META Board Meetings 2021-22 ([Schedule](#)) [Action]

Kirk recommended that the META board consider meeting quarterly instead of monthly due to the fact that board members are extremely busy. The goal is to continue to conduct meetings that are meaningful for board members. Kirk proposed the following:

- META Annual Board Retreat: September 10 - 11, 2021
- November 17: Virtual Board Meeting
- February 16: Virtual Board Meeting
- March 20: Board Meeting during METAtchED Conference
- May 11: Board Reorganization Meeting in Helena
- October 20, January 5, and April 13 meeting dates will be removed from the draft schedule.

Brian Norwood made a motion to approve the meeting dates; Adam Toombs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Consideration of META New Board Member Orientation – Date, Time and Format?

Everett suggested scheduling the META New Board Member Orientation during the META Annual Board Retreat on September 10 - 11, 2021

9. [SAM Administrators Institute 2021](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk reviewed the conference schedule stating that several sessions will be beneficial to META members specifically in the Accelerating Learning and Infrastructure Needs focus zones. He encouraged board members to attend and asked that they encourage region members to also attend. The conference will be delivered both in-person and virtually. Everett suggested that board members also encourage their district leadership teams to attend.

10. MASS/METAtechED Spring Conference 2022 – *Carol Phillips*

Everett reported that the conference will be scheduled for an in-person event with a virtual option. He stated that a few sessions will be held in conjunction with the Montana Association of School Superintendent (MASS) conference.

3. Reports

1. President Report – *Everett Holm*

The President Report was given throughout the meeting.

2. President Elect Report – *Carol Phillips*

No report

3. Past President and CoSN State Chapter – *Brian Norwood*

Brian reported that CoSN is currently upgrading its website. The organization is asking for recommendations. CoSN is also working with Congress on federal issues.

4. South East – *Branson Rogers*

Branson reported that a virtual meeting was held in early May with two members in attendance. It went well and he will work on setting up one this fall.

5. South Central – *Darlene Hess*

No report

6. Central – *Adam Toombs & Scott Baldwin*

Adam reported that a meeting was held recently. Zebra will be replacing Scott as the region's co-director. Joshua Day will be representing the region for Delegate Assembly.

7. 4 Rivers – *Mindy Obert & Brad Somers*

No report.

8. Western – *Paul Kozlowitz*

Pal reported that he is hoping to hold a meeting at the beginning of the summer to get education technologists together to celebrate the end of the year.

9. Northwest – *Detlef Schlieper*

No report

10. North Central – *Jeredene Mayfield & James Krippes*

James reported that the region meeting was held in April with another meeting is planned for October.

11. Hi Line – *Robert Parker & Travis Baumann*

Travis reported that a meeting will be held in the fall or possibly the end of summer.

12. North East – *TBD*

4. **Advocacy Update** – *Rich Lawrence & Kirk Miller*

1. [2021 Legislative Session](#)

Kirk reviewed the SAM 2021 Legislative Session Summary stating that eight calls to action were launched during the session with seven of the eight being successful. He thanked the META members who participated in those calls and the SAM Legislative Network. He reviewed the following bills:

- Funding: HB 15, HB 630, HB 632
- Privatization with Public Funds: HB 279, HB 329, HB 633, SB 157, SB 72
- Recruitment/Retention: HB 143, HB 403
- Facility and Technology Infrastructure: HB 181, SB 297
- Education Policy: SB 400

Kirk stated that the data indicates the 73.3% of the bills that SAM supported passed and 26.7% of the bills that SAM opposed passed. MT-PEC will be providing training during SAM AI and during MCEL in October. A recording of the Day after Advocacy, the training provided by MT-PEC on May 24th, is available on the SAM website.

2. [SAM Delegate Assembly 2021](#)

3. [Federal Issues](#) Update

5. [Executive Director Report – SAM Update](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk reviewed the COVID-19 Information for Schools resources that are available on the SAM website. Changes to the webpage are referenced in the weekly SAM update. He invited board members to review the report. Everett thanked the SAM office and SAM members who advocated for education during the session.

6. **META Board Reorganization** ([2021-22 META Board of Directors Roster](#))

1. Recognition of outgoing Board members

Everett thanked Scott Baldwin and Mindy Obert for their time and service.

2. Seating of new Board members

Everett welcomed Mitch Irvine, Zebra Fiscus, Darlene Hess, and Detlef Schlieper as new META Board members.

3. Recognition of META President Everett Holm.

Kirk thanked Everett for his continued service to META and SAM.

4. Keeping of the Gavel 2021-22 META President Everett Holm

Everett encouraged board members to consider running for META President Elect when nominations open in 2022.

7. **Open Discussion** - Items brought to the Board by Regional Directors

Everett suggested that META Board members consider attending region MASS meetings.

8. **Adjourn**

Adam Toombs made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Travis Baumann seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 AM.

META CALENDAR

- [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](#)

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